

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

28 JANUARY 1987

ICO Summit Conference

The conference will consider a draft resolution on the Iran-Iraq war 28 January, an official spokesman disclosed in a statement cited by KUNA, adding that the ICO hopes to implement its resolution on the war through messages or a committee. The spokesman downplayed the possibility of holding an Arab summit on the sidelines of the ICO conference, stating that "many complications" are preventing the move to hold an Arab summit. Nevertheless, the Arab League secretary general told INA that the Arab leaders in Kuwait will hold a summit 28 or 29 January.

Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad was among those who addressed the 27 January session, telling the conferees that the Arab-Israeli dispute is the "main topic" to be discussed. In his address, broadcast by Damascus television, the Syrian leader warned that the "Zionist danger" is increasing and he claimed that Israel's UN membership is "legally invalid" because the Israelis failed to fulfill conditions of membership. Accusing the United States of blindly adopting Israeli policies and attitudes on the Mideast conflict and on terrorism, Al-Asad stressed the "very big difference" between terrorism and liberation struggles, and he deplored the West's lack of response to his call for an international committee to define terrorism.

In contrast to Al-Asad, Jordan's King Husayn and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak focused on the dangers of the Iran-Iraq war in their speeches, broadcast by Amman and Cairo radios respectively. Husayn said the war is the "first problem" to be resolved and Mubarak urged the ICO to establish a team of experts to mobilize resources of Islamic countries "in a collective and coordinated manner to stand up to any aggression against any ICO member." He also called for a nonaggression pact among Islamic countries and said the ICO must appeal to warring Muslim states to end their fighting within a specified period. Mubarak said he would not respond to criticisms of Egypt in Al-Asad's speech out of concern for the conference. Mubarak and Al-Asad earlier shook hands and entered the conference hall hand in hand, MENA noted, though a Syrian spokesman cited by Damascus radio stressed that this was in accordance with protocol and had no political significance. Both Damascus and Cairo radios broadcast official denials of a KUNA report that Al-Asad held talks with Mubarak after the summit session. The KUNA report, which cited an Arab diplomatic source, also said that Al-Asad met with Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil 28 January.

Iran-Iraq War

An Iraqi official cited by INA rejected Iran's offer to end the attacks on cities, stating that Iraq will only reconsider its decision to pound Iranian cities if an internationally-guaranteed agreement is reached. He said Iraqi air attacks on Iran will continue unless the latter stops attacking Iraqi territory and follows the "correct path." Iraqi communiques broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio subsequently announced new air raids on Iranian cities 27 and 28 January, noting that the targets included Qom, Tabriz, and Khomeyn, the birthplace of "charlatan Khomeyni." In retaliation, Iran "heavily pounded" Iraqi targets in Basra and other cities, IRNA reported.

At the battlefronts, a fresh Iranian attack late 27 January resulted in 1,500 Iraqi casualties, according to Tehran radio. An Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA maintained that the Iranian attack the previous night was repulsed, with Iran sustaining 5,000 casualties. A spokesman cited by the Iraqi agency also denied Iran's claim to have downed three Iraqi planes over the Karbala' 5 sector 27 January. An Iraqi communique reported a strike at a large maritime target near the Iranian coast 28 January, and Athens radio disclosed that a Greek tanker was hit by an Exocet missile that morning.

Lebanon

Explosion at UNIFIL Barracks — A "huge explosion" destroyed a building that housed the Irish UNIFIL contingent in the town of Tibnin and wounded four of its soldiers, Beirut radio reported. The report gave no further details of the blast, which occurred early on 28 January.

Waite's Whereabouts — Mixed reports on the whereabouts of Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite continue to circulate, with the Archbishop of Canterbury stating that "no direct evidence" suggests Waite is being detained, while acknowledging that the church has had no contacts with Waite's intermediary for more than 1 week, London *Press Association* reported. At the same time, Beirut radio cited a person "close" to Waite's intermediary as saying that the kidnappers "do not intend to detain Waite."

Libya-Chad Conflict

Libya launched an air attack on the Chadian town of Zouar 26-27 January, Ndjamena radio reported. No casualty figures were disclosed.

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
CONTENTS****Middle East & Africa**

Vol V No 018

28 January 1987

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i**INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS**

Reportage on Activities at Fifth ICO Summit	A 1
Spokesman on Developments [KUNA]	A 1
President Mubarak Speech [Cairo]	A 1
King Husayn Speech [Amman]	A 5
Zia on Afghanistan, India [Karachi]	A 9
Pirzada Presents Report [KUNA]	A 9
Arab Leaders To Hold 'Unofficial' Summit [WAKH]	A 10
ICO Goodwill Committee Discusses Gulf War [KUNA]	A 10
Soviet Greeting Message to Summit Reported [KUNA]	A 11
'Arafat Seeks Gulf War Decisions at ICO Summit [KUNA]	A 11
Claims UK-Iranian Coordination [KUNA]	A 11

ARABIAN PENINSULA

Exocet Missile Hits Tanker in Persian Gulf [Athens]	C 1
---	-----

BAHRAIN

Cypriot Interior Minister Departs 23 Jan	C 1
--	-----

KUWAIT

Cypriot Interior Minister Arrives for Talks [Nicosia TV]	C 1
Paper Lauds Mubarak's ICO Summit Participation [AL-RAY AL-'AMM 25 Jan]	C 1

PDRY

'Abdallah Receives Libyan, Indian Envoys	C 2
IRNA: Foreign Minister Receives Iranian Envoy	C 2

SAUDI ARABIA

Crown Prince Receives Palestinian Officials	C 2
---	-----

UAE

President Receives Message From Al-Qadhdhafi [WAKH]	C 2
---	-----

YAR

Al-'Amri Departs For Arab Agricultural Meeting	C 2
--	-----

EGYPT

Al-Majid on Kuwait Summit, Pan-Arab Relations [London AL-MAJALLAH 21-27 Jan]	D 1
Further Comments [AL-MUSAWWAR 23 Jan]	D 2

IRAQ

Minister on Iranian Stand on Cities Shelling	E 1
--	-----

Further Reports, Communiques on Fighting	E 1
500 Meters Secured in Basra	E 1
Communique on 26-27 Jan Battles	E 1
Downing of 3 Planes Denied	E 2
Communique No 2,545	E 2

JORDAN

Australian Prime Minister Arrives for Talks	F 1
Terms Relations 'Good'	F 1
Talks With Al-Rifa'i	F 1
Meets With King Husayn	F 2
Speaks to Press	F 2
Speaks on Ties With Israel [Melbourne]	F 2
Concludes Visit, Departs	F 2
WAKH: Al-Masri on ICO Summit, Murphy Visit, PLO	F 3
TV Notes Saudi Aid to Jordanian-Palestinian Fund	F 3
Al-Asad Cables King Husayn En Route To Kuwait	F 3

LEBANON

Source Says No Intention To Detain Waite	G 1
Waite Reportedly Still Negotiating [RFL]	G 1
More Foreigners Reportedly Kidnapped in Beirut [RFL]	G 1
Car Seizure Confirmed [RFL]	G 1
New Group Claims Abduction of Saudi National [VOL]	G 1
8 French Teachers Evacuated From West Beirut	G 1
Fadlallah Says Kidnapping Not Political Action	G 1
Al-Jumayyil Pledges Support for Release of Germans [DPA]	G 2
Karami Discusses Kidnappings, Syrian Forces	G 2

SYRIA

Mubarak-Al-Asad Handshake Has 'No Significance'	H 1
'Text' of Al-Asad's AL-QABAS Interview	H 1

ISRAEL

Hawke Brings Message From Husayn on Conference	I 1
Shamir Rejects Hawke Stance	I 1
Hawke on Jordan Summit Stance [DAVAR 28 Jan]	I 1
Foreign Minister Peres Holds Meeting With EEC	I 1
Levi Criticizes Peres Statements on Settlement	I 1
Levi Interviewed on Iran-Iraq War, South Lebanon	I 2
Economic Package Extends Price Freeze Till 1988	I 2

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Petroleum Association Meeting Opens in Lagos [Lagos]	P 1
Nigerian President Opens Meeting [Lagos]	P 1
Tripoli Reports Group	P 1
Libya Protests Egypt's Admission [BBC]	P 1
Egyptian Membership Barred [Tripoli TV]	P 2

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Earthquake Measures 5.1 on Richter Scale	Q 1
--	-----

LIBYA

- Al-Qadhdhafi Interviewed by Lebanese Magazine [Beirut AL-KIFAH AL-'ARABI 26 Jan]..... Q 1
 JANA Editor on Reagan Address to Congress Q 3
 Criticizes Gulf War Remarks Q 3
 Radio Bardai: Habre Troops in Zovar Destroyed Q 3

SUDAN

- Sudan Denies Airspace to U.S. Chad-Bound Planes [AL-SUDANI 25 Jan]..... Q 3

WESTERN SAHARA

- Fighters Destroy Boat; 2 Passengers Safe Q 4

EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

- Mengistu Speech Marks Battle Anniversary R 1
 Eritrean Radio Reports Victorious Clash [Voice of Broad Masses] R 2

SOMALIA

- AFP: French Hostages Reportedly 'In Good Health' R 3
 Foreign Minister Departs for Kuwait ICO Meeting R 3

UGANDA

- President Museveni Receives Sudanese Minister [SUNA]..... R 3
 Departs for Kuwait ICO Summit R 3
 Soviet Friendship Official Arrives on Visit R 3
 NRA Reportedly Kills Over 260 'Rebels' in Kilak R 3

WEST AFRICA

BURKINA FASO

- Iranian Envoy Discusses Cooperation With Sankara T 1
 Minister Ends Visit to Libya; Protocol Signed T 1

GHANA

- Accra Condemns Capitalism for Third World Woes T 1

IVORY COAST

- Hungarian Deputy Foreign Minister Arrives 22 Jan T 2

SENEGAL

- AFP: Students Renew Strike for Indefinite Period T 2

SIERRA LEONE

- AFP: Authorities Tell Students To End Strike T 2

SOUTHERN AFRICA

- Frontline Plans for RSA Sanctions Detailed [SAPA]..... U 1

ANGOLA

UNITA Warns Railway Attacks Will Continue *[Johannesburg]* U 2

MOZAMBIQUE

MNR Details Capture of 3 Towns, Shelling of Tete *[AFP]* U 2

NAMIBIA

Two SWATF Members Die in Land Mine Blast *[SAPA]* U 2

SWATF Reports 72 SWAPO Members Killed in Clash *[SAPA]* U 2

Outgoing SWATF Commander on Action Against *[SAPA]* U 3

SOUTH AFRICA

Defense Minister Says Emergency Ensures Security U 3

Restrictions on Township Funerals Imposed U 3

Dr van der Merwe Re-Evaluating Press Restrictions U 4

NRP Agrees Not To Oppose PFP in Election U 4

HNP, CP Agree to Election Pact in East London *[Umtata]* U 4

Transkei Police Arrest Several Alleged Guerrillas *[Umtata]* U 4

ANC's Nzo Reveals Plan To Mobilize Whites *[Lusaka]* U 4

Unrest Report Issued on 27 Jan Incidents U 5

Press Comments on Current Problems, Issues U 5

ZAMBIA

Prime Minister To Take Over Finance Portfolio U 6

President Kaunda Departs for New Delhi Summit U 6

Radio Truth Reports 'Serious Friction' in Army U 6

ZIMBABWE

ZANU (PF), ANC Hold Talks on Cooperation *[Johannesburg CITY PRESS 25 Jan]* U 6

Reportage on Activities at Fifth ICO Summit

Spokesman on Developments

LD280043 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 2309 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, 27 Jan (KUNA) — The official spokesman at the Fifth ICO Summit said tonight the summit had not yet crystalized its efforts to end the armed conflict between Iraq and Iran. The spokesman, Kuwaiti Foreign Under Secretary Sulayman Majid al-Shahin, said the draft resolution on the Iraq-Iran war will be submitted to the leaders of the Islamic world tomorrow and "we hope that it will lead to means to implement the resolution, (?whether) in the form of messengers, messages, a committee, or entrusting the existing (Islamic Good Offices) Committee [words indistinct] its efforts."

He pointed out that the participants, "Kuwait in particular, are not pessimistic, and the efforts to halt the war have not reached a dead-end." He said that the report presented by the Gambian president this morning did not contain anything that contradicts the submitted peaceful orientations from different fronts.

When Al-Shahin was told that Iran was not present at the conference he answered by saying: "But it hears, and the conference can in fact only continue to issue appeals and suggest solutions. The confrontation of violence by violence is out of the question in any political conference." When asked whether there was an intention to send a delegation to Tehran, he said: "All I know is that there is undoubtedly more than one method to deal with this issue, which is a burden on Arabs, Muslims, and the whole world."

Al-Shahin was asked about the possibility of holding an Arab summit on the sidelines of the Islamic summit. He said that this is "a wish that echoes in the minds, an idea that comes to Arab minds before others. But we hope that the presence of the Arab leaders — God willing — will make it easy for them to agree on a date and place (for an Arab summit)." He added: "I cannot see that it is possible to agree on the place and the date, as there are many complications that seem to work against the summit. There are two schools: the first says let us solve the problems that would detonate the meeting, and the other says let us meet to solve those problems. Between these two schools the summit was postponed."

Asked about today's handshake between Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, and whether it means a reconciliation between the two Arab countries, Al-Shahin said the matter "is not a personal dispute, because there is an exchange of messages, an exchange of flirtations, and sometimes also an exchange of harsh words, but all this remains within the framework of political action and a dispute between two different policies. Nevertheless, the human and Arab spirit overcomes all the political disputes."

He added that "the the handshake is good news, but I do not see anything (?in it) because the two presidents sit down together and eat together, and there is nothing to stop them from shaking hands, or more." He pointed out that the two leaders do not need "any reconciliation means. It is sufficient that they participate in this huge gathering, within this conference, in the bosom of

Kuwait, and that they are close to each other. All these things facilitate a meeting."

He pointed out that "what pleases the heart is the fact that the addresses of the two presidents were amicable toward each other, and each of them praised the qualities of the other. In fact, this is good. The distance between them is very short."

He said that the Lebanese issue, with all its dimensions and complications, was presented to the conferees. The Lebanese issue enjoys the same attention as any other issue, and the presence of Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil at the conference gives it more weight.

He pointed out that before tomorrow's session the summit chairman, his highness the amir, will hold a meeting at the office of the chairmanship, which includes the deputy chairmen from Gabon and the Maldives and the permanent deputy from Palestine.

Al-Shahin said that Kuwait is proud that the conference "is distinguished with full attendance at the highest level."

The conference is attended by the leaders of 27 of the 46 ICO member-states, which is the highest ratio of personal participation by leaders at an ICO summit since the formation of the organization in 1969.

President Mubarak Speech

NC272013 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1747 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Speech by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak at the Fifth ICO Summit in Kuwait — live]

[Text] God's peace and blessings be with you. Before I start my speech, I wish to say that I listened to the address delivered by Brother Pre-⁴ent Hafiz al-Asad, president of Syria, who talked at great length about Egypt and Egypt's behavior. I do not agree with him at all. I have thought a lot, and I have many replies. However, I have decided not to comment on this speech out of my concern for our conference at this summit level. [applause]

It is due to God's blessing and grace that our conference is being held in a country that represents Islamic nobility and embodies our nation's ability to preserve its values, principles, and holy places, and to defend its heritage, rights, and interests. It pleases me to express our deep appreciation and gratitude to the fraternal State of Kuwait, to its amir, people, and government, for their splendid preparation for this conference, and for their obvious concern for the appropriate environment for its success. They have done this so that we might fulfill the great hopes that the glorious peoples of our nation place on this conference, which is being held at a decisive point in the life of the single Islamic nation — the best of peoples, evolved for mankind. [Koranic verse]

We, in Egypt, are particularly proud of Kuwait and its noble people. We are proud of the very close fraternal ties that have bound us throughout the years as an expression of the sincere

cooperation between peoples who believe in God and are united by the same aim and destiny. Our pleasure and pride are doubled by the fact that Kuwait has at its head at this historic stage dear Brother Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, who embodies the high Islamic ethics and the noble Islamic values with his magnanimity, pride, wisdom, faithfulness, and devotion to serving the causes of Islam and Muslims. We beseech Almighty God to make his chairmanship of this conference and the ICO during the coming years a source of goodness, glory, and usefulness, in which we all share the fulfillment of our sacred duty out of loyalty to the rights of our nation, peoples, and creed.

I would like to express my gratitude and that of the Egyptian people for the warmth expressed toward Egypt and its role by the brother leaders of the countries taking part in this conference. Truly, this noble spirit and these sincere feelings, which we have sensed since our arrival, increase our pride in belonging with you to one family, as well as our determination to carry out our role in defending the causes of Islam and the Muslim people. For us, this represents a commitment that we will not relinquish, nor take lightly in fulfilling. It also represents a constant tie that has never been severed and a giving that has never stopped. It will not be shaken as long as the minarets of Al-Azhar [mosque in Cairo] remain high in the skies of Egypt, God's land on his earth.

I believe we all agree that there is only one choice before us; namely, to listen to our conscience, to rise to the level of responsibility, and to express faithfully the hopes of our peoples in both the east and the west. They long for a serious beginning of a new era, which we will establish on the basis of honesty, loyalty to truth, and a clear concept of the higher goals of the Islamic nation at this critical stage. We now face grave dangers and challenges that have no precedent in our modern history.

Dear brothers, there is no better way to begin our work than with God's words. These are the words with which the Almighty inspired his good prophet so that they might be used to guide the people and provide a beacon for those who wish to follow this guidance and choose the straight path. We must observe these immortal, holy words fully. These are the words with which the Almighty formulated the philosophy that has governed relations between the members of the Islamic world throughout the ages. And hold fast, all together, by the rope of God, and do not be divided among yourselves. Remember with gratitude God's favor on you, for you were enemies and He joined your hearts in love so that by his grace you became brethren; you were on the brink of the pit of fire and He saved you from it. Thus does God make his signs clear to you so that you may be guided. [Koranic verse] God verily speaks the truth.

The Creator has sent his true religion to be the light of truth and certainty, the source of love and brotherhood among humanity, the unbreakable tie among believers, the means of purging hearts of hatred, envy, and malice, and the guardian that restrains indulgence in seditions, division, and destructive conflicts. Islam was sent by the most gracious and merciful to build relations among Muslims on foundations that preserve the right to life, freedom, and religion. The Almighty has given power to these noble values throughout Islam's 14-century march with his words: If anyone slew a person, unless it be for murder or for spreading mischief in the land, it would be as if he killed the

whole people. Let there be no compulsion in religion. [Koranic verse]

The glory of Islam, past, present, and future, was based on mercy and forgiveness, even with enemies and rivals. It was also founded on solidarity and cohesion among the members of the one Muslim family. The Islamic march unified peoples and tribes who were enemies and built a lofty edifice of peace and justice. This march, however, is now faced with various challenges, both internally and externally. It is confronted by hazards and schemes that call for us to be aware of their serious nature. The sublime Islamic spirit must be followed to ensure that the call of Islam is nourished and that the Islamic renaissance is revived to defend Islam and to protect the rights and freedoms of Muslims against schemes to harm their religion and way of life.

These destructive crises, the increasing number of sharp disputes, the escalation of tension among members of the Islamic family, and the growing dangers facing the Islamic world necessitate that every true Muslim maintain a high degree of awareness, vigilance, and responsibility. The situation calls for a growing need to pinpoint the source of such threats and to become acquainted with their nature, dimensions, and repercussions. The dangers that affect the very existence of Muslims and threaten a return to the dark ages of paganism, killing, vendettas, and malice must be firmly confronted. There must not be a return to the world of fanaticism, which Islam came to abolish once and for all.

The Islamic world is being exposed to many tribulations, seditions, and dangers that threaten our fate in the last quarter of the 20th century. There is no discrimination between one Arab and another, between an African and Asian, between strong and weak, or between rich and poor. We are all equal in the face of these dangers and challenges. The challenge faced by our Islamic world in past centuries was one of progress and modernization to meet the needs and requirements of the age and to reconcile the traditional and the contemporary. The challenge we now face is even more difficult and complicated because it threatens the existence, jeopardizes the structure, and shakes the very foundation of the Islamic nation's concepts which we have derived from our religion and heritage and as our philosophers and leaders have expressed it. We still remember the valuable addition that our departed President Ahmed Sekou Toure made to the concept of the Islamic nation and the meaning and rules of conduct it imposes on us.

There is no need to discuss here the reasons for our nation's crisis in various areas. This is a reality, and we all live and put up with its consequences, concerns, and sins. We also realize the depth of the pit into which it could drag us. However, I propose that we concentrate our deliberations at this conference which is a historic opportunity that must not be wasted on how to emerge from this crisis. We must concentrate on how to change this painful reality, which no Muslim, zealous for his religion and nation and sincere with his God and himself, can accept.

I will be content with stating the general guidelines that must govern our thoughts and actions at this delicate stage in our history if we are to be aware of the dimensions of the dangers surrounding us and truly want to overcome them before calamity befalls us. First, we must agree on a definition of the sublime

goals of the Islamic nation at this stage and provide guarantees that there will be no departure from them. It is self-evident that a decisive definition of basic collective goals does not at all contradict the multiplicity of methods we follow to realize them. A diversification of means and efforts can greatly strengthen and consolidate the unity of these goals.

In our definition of goals, it is our duty to lay down specific priorities for action. This means that we must concentrate at this conference on the basic issues of interest to Muslims in various parts of the world. They clearly affect our nation's unity and cohesion and its rights and basic interests.

Therefore, it is not permissible for us to direct our attention to minor, marginal matters or to issues that do not have priority in our thinking and policies. The definition of goals and priorities must be objective and based on foundations upon which we all agree and adopt as our criteria for assessment.

The issue of the Islamic world's credibility with regard to its relations and conduct is a basic one which deserves a great deal of our attention. Its negative repercussions are not limited to a distortion of our image on an international level but go so far as to undermine our rights, harm our interests, and threaten our future.

We have seen how fabrications have appeared over the last few years aimed against Islam and its teachings. They have portrayed it as a religion that advocates violence and extremism, exploiting irresponsible actions by people who claim to be Muslims to allege that Islam permits terrorism and the shedding of the innocent blood of women and children.

We welcome the invitation extended by our dear brother, the amir of Kuwait, to discuss all the various aspects of international terrorism at this conference. Our goal is to rectify the image of Islam and Muslims and make every one of us shoulder his full responsibility.

It should be recalled that Egypt issued a warning about the need to confront the terrorist phenomenon and reveal its motives and its political, economic, and psychological effects more than a year ago. Egypt has also called for the need to distinguish between acts of terrorism that are worthy of denunciation and the struggle that national liberation movements must wage to attain freedom from foreign occupation and colonialism.

We must always remember that Islam is not merely rites and obligations; its very essence constitutes values, rules for behavior with others, and noble ethics that a Muslim is not allowed to abandon or contradict. Being a Muslim is a great honor, and only someone capable of adhering to its values and ethics, embodying its chastity and purity, and rising above desires, ulterior motives, and trivialities deserves to enjoy it. Without such adherence, the Islamic identity becomes a mere formality empty of content.

If we apply these criteria to define our goals and priorities, we will discover that the first thing to which we must direct our attention and give priority is the Islamic nation's security in a comprehensive strategic sense. Security is the fundamental and indispensable prerequisite for the preservation of existence.

Without it, life becomes a mixture of fear, anxiety, and instability, and every achievement attained by individuals or the community will be blown away by the wind. Thinking of the future becomes impossible; it is relegated to divination, surrender to the unknown, or a predestined fate.

Perhaps our presence in this dear part of the Islamic world at a time when combat and destructive operations are intensifying will serve to heighten our faith in the importance of security for the lives of nations and peoples. This faith will then be vindicated before our eyes so that no one can ignore it, play down its importance, or divert our attention from our responsibility to preserve the nation's strategic security. No one will be able to divert us from the task of strengthening the nation's ability to persist and remain steadfast in the face of perils and challenges.

The destructive effects of the Gulf war are serious and do not allow us to simply stand as an observer or spectator. The situation in this extremely important strategic region has gone beyond the level of condemnation and denunciation. We must be honest with ourselves and admit that the continuation of this frenzied and futile war is rejected by us all. Not one of us agrees that the blood of a whole generation of Iraqi and Iranian people should be shed in something not dictated by God. Not one of us looks on the tragedy as a game from which to benefit or achieve limited selfish aims at the expense of the corpses of innocent victims from these two countries.

Neither victor nor vanquished will emerge from the continuation of this murderous war. The continuing escalation of the fighting and destruction means grave consequences for the warring countries and paralyzes their ability to resume development and construction in the future. Above all, we feel sorrow and pain when the blood of any Muslim is shed in something other than what God has made lawful. We therefore adhere to our right to act to end this war and to eliminate the racial and sectarian seditions that it is creating.

The battles now raging represent an aggression against the Iraqi people, an infringement on their sovereignty over their territories, and a threat to their right to live in peace and security. This war has also come to threaten all fraternal countries in the Gulf region to the extent that we are required to act collectively and without delay to confront the danger. This action is in accord with the principle of solidarity among all Islamic peoples and an embodiment of our determination to protect the entire Islamic world and to close all existing gaps within the security structure of Islamic countries.

What increases the danger of this war, as well as our commitment to contain its destructive effects, is the fact that it opens wide the door for intervention by foreign powers that see a golden opportunity in this bloody conflict to fulfill their own ambitions and to serve their own strategies, disregarding the future of both countries and the interests of the region's other states.

Iran and Iraq are simply and solely two fraternal Islamic countries. No real contradiction of interests or aims can ever rise between them. Any view other than this is at best a form of false knowledge. The continuation of the frenzied fighting between these two countries is unacceptable. It is far removed from the

spirit of Islam and the nature of Muslims. The first duty of the Islamic nation and the most sacred of our commitments as this nation's representatives is to exert our utmost efforts to stop that war immediately and to adopt a firm stand against those who are working to continue and intensify it. There is no alternative to effective collective action that will not be deterred by the insistence of one of the two parties to continue the fighting and expand the war or be frustrated by the failure of past futile efforts to bring this conflict to an end. Otherwise, it means that we accept the continuation of that war forever in theory or practice.

We must struggle with all our might to stop that war and support what is right. We must bring an end to the bloodshed and respond to God's call. In his holy book he says: If two parties among the believers fall into a quarrel, make ye peace between them. [Koranic verse] God verily speaks the truth.

We have no doubt that the fighting between Iran and Iraq is only a frightening prelude to even more frightening and dangerous consequences that will not stop at a threat to the security of the Gulf and Arab east but will extend to threaten the entire Islamic nation. We must all unite to ward off this danger to the house of Islam and to protect all the Islamic nation's peoples from its repercussions and destructive consequences. In this way we will ensure that our front will not become weak and subject to further danger.

Dear brothers, time has proved the truth of what we have often reiterated; namely, that it is necessary to achieve a peaceful and just solution to the Palestinian problem as a precondition for securing stability in the Middle East. We believe there is no alternative to an international peace conference in which the five permanent UN Security Council members participate alongside the parties directly involved in the dispute, including the PLO, to achieve a comprehensive settlement. Such a settlement should see Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territory and permit the fraternal Palestinian people to exercise their natural right to self-determination.

As long as we are interested in the fate of these people, it is also our duty to seek the convocation of such a conference as soon as possible. This must be done to stop the continuing aggression against the rights of these people; resist the daily danger to their land, livelihood, and freedom; and prevent the occupation of the occupied territory, including Arab Jerusalem — which represents a legal and spiritual commitment to every Muslim and every person believing in the coexistence of followers of divine religions — from being consolidated.

It should be clear to us all that the convocation of this international conference is not the end of the road. It is only the necessary start down a long path full of difficulties and obstacles. Those who oppose such a conference in word or deed must realize that they are causing great harm to the rights of these steadfast people. We extend a special greeting to these people from this platform and affirm our solidarity with them in their steadfastness, noble spirit, and adherence to their rights and identity.

Our hearts bleed when we see the chapters unfold in the tragedy of Lebanon, the continuation of the sufferings of the fraternal

Lebanese people, and the daily threat to their lives, interests, and future. We must all remain faithful to our commitment to help these noble people in their efforts to liberate their land and will.

Your highness, dear brother, chairman of the conference. We are following with interest the struggle being waged by our Muslim people in Afghanistan to safeguard their Islamic and cultural identity and their right to a free and dignified life without foreign domination or interference. We all hope that the declared promises of a rapid and early withdrawal of foreign forces and the termination of the illegal presence on the land of Afghanistan will be fulfilled.

We also stand alongside our brothers in Chad who are struggling to consolidate their national unity and liberate their land from foreign occupation.

Our African Continent has long suffered and still suffers from a treacherous racist policy in its southern area. This continent deserves our firm support and complete solidarity. It demands that we resist this dilapidated imperialist policy in accord with the spirit of Islam and its teachings, which reject racism, slavery, and exploitation; that we call for man to respect his brothers; and that we guarantee equality for all.

Dear brother members, it has become an uncontested fact in this age that the political independence of a nation or people cannot be complete unless it is supported by economic and cultural independence. This requires an ability to produce sufficient food for the Islamic world at a time when we sense the threat of famine and food scarcity in various parts of the Third World. We see danger in the fact that food imports to Islamic countries have reached \$22 billion while their food exports do not exceed \$5 billion. This means that the Islamic world depends on the outside for food. This serious situation has repercussions and a negative impact on our existence, our daily interests, and our ability to exercise free will. We must therefore call for coordinated and collective action to reverse this situation.

The call of Islam has always rejected limits and barriers. It will always overlook color and race. The Islamic nation, held together by monotheism, will only be partial to God and his prophet. Islamic rights and issues must take priority among our concerns. This is the essence of Islamic solidarity and its true embodiment. The honorable Al-Azhar is the castle of Islam and the minaret of its civilization. It opens its heart and soul to all Muslims everywhere so that they may rise from their slumber and revive the glory and strength of the Muslim world. Islamic Egypt, the land of Al-Azhar, views Muslim issues, problems, and rights with the same spirit and strength that it grasps the most trustworthy hand holding the sons of the Muslim world together throughout the world. Egypt's concepts are based on its belief that the Muslim's right to life, freedom, and dignity must not contradict the principles of international law, and on a commitment to the principle of noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries.

We are committed to ensuring respect for Muslims' rights and confronting all forms of injustice that face Muslims anywhere in the world. This commitment can only be realized through our calls to recognize the rights of Muslim minorities in different

parts of the world. They have a right to equality, freedom of religion, and the preservation of their spiritual identity and religious beliefs. The Islamic religion provides a magnificent example of forgiveness, coexistence, and united capability. We must promote these principles and comprehensive concepts and establish them within the international community in which we live. This is our message and our creed. This is the line from which we will never deviate.

Dear brother chairman, dear brothers, please allow me to propose some specific ideas to enrich objective dialogue among the members of the Muslim family. I hope that they will guide them to a unified, or at least close, concept of the means needed to face effectively the great challenges that impede our march and threaten our existence, collectively and individually, in both the present and the future.

First, I propose forming a special working team of experts who have a full understanding of the concept of security for the one Muslim nation. This concept must take into consideration the dangers facing Islamic countries in various continents of the world, as well as ways to mobilize the energies and resources of these countries in a collective and coordinated manner to stand up to any aggression against any ICO member state. We must make this collective concept a serious and objective one. It must be committed to the Islamic principles and laws, which call for love, forgiveness, and brotherhood and which forbid fanaticism, aggression, and injustice.

Second, we must establish a nonaggression pact among the Islamic countries in accordance with the UN Charter and the provisions of international law. We should take as our guide the charters concluded by regional or international groups to reduce the danger of war among the signatories.

Third, we must issue an appeal to the warring Islamic countries to put an end to their fighting within a specified period and to resort to peaceful means to resolve their conflicts. We must make a cooperative and concerted effort in this regard.

May God give us victory through right, guide us to follow his path, and direct us toward the service of our one nation and the achievement of the security, pride, and prosperity we desire. Convening our conference at this historic juncture in fraternal Kuwait is an auspicious beginning and a harbinger of hope for our glorious nation. It is God who grants success and guides all to the correct path. May God grant us success. Peace and the mercy of God be upon you.

King Husayn Speech

JN271540 Amman Domestic Service in English
1208 GMT 27 Jan 87

["Text" of speech by Jordan's King Husayn at the Fifth ICO Summit in Kuwait on 27 January — read by announcer]

[Text] Your highness, president of the conference; your majesties; your highnesses; excellencies: Peace be upon you all, brothers in Islam, and peace and prayers be upon the faithful prophet and last messenger and his household and all his followers. It is

through the bounty of merciful God that we are convening today, guided by the true principles of Islam in this beloved country of Kuwait, the stronghold of Islamic faith and Arab honor and the second home of a great number of Arabs and Muslims alike. It is with the greatest pleasure that I congratulate your highness for the recognition accorded to you by this conference in electing you as president, an act that clearly indicates the high esteem and great respect your country commands in the hearts of all Muslims and the distinguished personal qualities and admirable statesmanship your highness is known by your fellow leaders to possess in such abundance. I am confident that your wisdom and vision will endow this Fifth Islamic Summit with the deepest sense of collective responsibility, a greater endeavor and seriousness of debate, and an indefatigable search for consensus of opinion. It is also with the greatest pleasure that I express on behalf of all the members of the Jordanian delegation our gratitude and appreciation for the hospitality accorded to us the moment we arrived in this country. Hospitality has always been one of the distinctive qualities of your people. I would also like to take this opportunity to express my deep appreciation for the continued endeavors exerted by His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco during his presidency of the Fourth Islamic Summit and for his and his country's positive contribution to the good of Muslims everywhere. Further, I would also like to express my happiness for the Arab Republic of Egypt in its resumption of its leading role in the Islamic conference. I am certain that Egypt will continue as she always has been a citadel of faith committed to the causes of Islam and the Muslims all over the world.

Dear brothers, we meet today in the Fifth Islamic Summit beleaguered by certain worries and pressing problems. We are surrounded by dangers and challenges. We meet while the call of Al-Aqsa [mosque in Jerusalem], the captive, is smothered by our thundering guns shelling our homes. We meet while Muslim blood is shed in the cracks of our edifice, which has been shaken by intercommunal strife. We meet whilst the rest of the world watches to see what we are going to do. And yet we meet accompanied by our people's prayers for success. Shall we then silence our own guns, aimed at ourselves, so that we may be able to hear the call of our first Qiblah [Jerusalem]? Shall we be true to the mosque from whose blood-soaked earth we established our organization? Shall we return the smile to the faces of our children, confidence in the future to our new generations, and respect to our people? Shall the Muslims once more be brethren and shall the edifice of Islam be impregnable again? Shall we be guided by God's will and the dictates of his messenger, may God's blessings and peace be upon him, in our discussions and resolutions?

Seventeen years ago we awoke to find the flames of Zionist hatred and insatiable greed burning Salah al-Din's pulpit and endeavoring to raze one of our most sacred sites — symbol of our Islamic civilization and Islamic existence in holy Jerusalem. We countered that crime by organizing our ranks and unifying our endeavors to face the glaring Zionist evil. The result was the Islamic Conference Organization within whose framework we laid the principles of Islamic solidarity and mutual cooperation in the political, economic, cultural, scientific, and social spheres. We have made significant progress towards confirming those principles and guaranteeing sources of finance for their enactment. But this progress on the level of planning and organization

has been seriously hampered by our negligence of the first principle of any common endeavor; namely, the common outlook towards objectives and priorities and the unified stand in the face of our common enemy. We have even allowed our internal differences to develop into internal strife, forgetting God's clear-cut injunction: Dispute not one with another lest he falter and your strength depart from you. [Koranic verse]

The destructive war that is currently raging between the two Muslim neighbors Iran and Iraq, the intonating conflict that is tearing Lebanon apart, and the other squabbles in the Islamic world have not only exhausted the energies and resources of Muslims, but have also diminished the respect of the rest of the world for us and weakened us further in the eyes of our enemies. We have become an easy target for enemy adventures, an unresisting corpse to be divided by the superpowers or exploited by the minipowers and the arms dealers. In the search for self-preservation we look for allies to protect us from ourselves even if those allies were our real enemies, thus neglecting the divine injunction of God's will and forgetting the power that is within us.

Dear brothers, in the Third Islamic Summit held in Al-Ta'if, Saudi Arabia, the sanctuary of the two holy shrines, in 1981, I expressed the wish that my fellow Muslim leaders should turn their Islamic conference into a springboard for a comprehensive Islamic plan to build Islamic power on all fronts; and for a serious commitment to make our presence in international arenas commensurate with our relative weight in international affairs so that the liberation can be ensured and the road to victory can be embarked upon. For in addition to its immortal message and everlasting civilization, Islam today commands immense human and material resources. Decisions equal to the task in hand must be taken in order to restore Jerusalem and its holy places to their rightful owners and to safeguard for future generations their dignity and identity and to regain for the Palestinian people their homeland and their right to self-determination and sovereignty over their lands.

Six years have elapsed since then. What has been done to make that wish come true? Al-Aqsa, which incited us to gather and organize ourselves is still captive after 20 years. The Afghan people's struggle to secure their freedom has ended its 7th year, and the Somali people are still awaiting the liberation of territories occupied by their enemies. War is still raging for the 7th year between Iraq and Iran and civil war is still going on unabated in Lebanon, Chad, and Afghanistan. How meaningful is Islamic solidarity if Muslims continue to slaughter each other? What value will economic development have if we allow our Muslim brethren to continue to fight one another? And what value would the Islamic Conference Organization have if it fails to put an end to this intercommunal strife and to unify the ranks and rechannel the energies of the Muslims to face the common enemies of Islam? What indeed will be the meaning of our belonging to Islam if we do not heed the divine injunction clearly enunciated in the following verse: And if two parties of believers fall to fighting, then make peace between them. And if one party of them doeth wrong to the other, fight ye that which doeth wrong till it returns under the ordinance of Allah. Then, if it returns, make peace between them justly and act equitably. [Koranic verse]

The truly Islamic answer to surrounding dangers and enemies is for the Islamic community to act in unison. Jihad for the cause of God is enjoined on all Muslims. Make ready for them all thou canst of armed force and of horses tethered that thereby you may dismay the enemy of Allah and your enemy. [Koranic verse] For the community to make ready, it must be unified, not divided; harmonious, not beset by internal dissonance. But clearly jihad means first and foremost the protection of the territories of Islam against their enemies and the liberation of Muslims from the hegemony of the enemies of Islam. This is why Muslims have been commanded by God to settle the differences of the warring factions among them so that they can start to make ready. Consequently, the claim of any such faction that it is protecting Islam and trying to save Muslims is rendered void by its refusal to be reconciled with the other Muslim faction against which it is waging an unholy war. Furthermore, the rest of the Muslim community is rendered sinful if it fails to reconcile those factions because everybody becomes responsible for the dissipation of energies and continual self-destruction. But this clear-cut divine injunction is supported by sheer human logic for whenever we ask a leader of a non-Muslim country to contribute to an international effort to stop this destructive Gulf war, we are faced with the logical retort: Where is the common Islamic stand against this war? And indeed, dear brothers, how can we hope to mobilize international efforts to put an end to this ruinous war while we Muslims are incapable of taking a unified, decisive stand? Isn't it terribly ironic that we sit here in this comfortable air-conditioned hall while missiles and shells are thundering at hearing distance from us — missiles and shells we know are fired by Muslims against other Muslims, destroying their homes and burning their bodies and those of their women and children? How can we claim credibility when we call for the withdrawal of foreign forces from Islamic or non-Islamic territories while we waver within the framework of Islamic brotherhood and common good in dissuading a member of our organization from occupying territories belonging to another Muslim country — a member that has so far refused all calls for peace, flaunted his hostile intentions, and persisted in provoking Arabs and Muslims alike? How indeed can we reconcile our call for the liberation of the Al-Aqsa Mosque and for raising the banner of Islam on holy Jerusalem with our willingness to see our human and material resources wasted? How can we allow Basra, one of the fountains of Islamic thought, to be bombarded while we still curse the Mongols for the destruction of Baghdad, the home of Islamic science and knowledge? Shouldn't we ask ourselves: Why the Zionist occupants of Jerusalem, who are conspiring against the Al-Aqsa Mosque and what it symbolizes, are supplying one of the warring sides with arms and urging a superpower to do the same? Isn't Zionism consistent with itself when it makes the continuation of this war and destruction possible? Is it difficult for us to realize that the policy of containment pursued by the superpowers regarding this war is actually intended to let the Muslims destroy themselves by themselves or to let hatred and civil strife among them rule supreme? Or is it that the heritage of imperialism in our minds is greater than the pulse of Islam in our veins?

If this war is allowed to continue, it will leave nothing but hate and divisiveness. Who benefits then from its continuation? Aren't the beneficiaries the enemies of Islam who dread the unity of the Muslims? How can we believe that a war nourishing hatred

among Muslim peoples can produce an effective Muslim ummah [nation]? The Muslim ummah consists of nations and tribes. This is how God created it. Nations and tribes that they may meet under the banner of Islam; not to fight and slaughter each other in the name of Islam. Dispute he with us concerning Allah when He is our Lord and your Lord? Ours are our works and yours your works. We look to Him alone. [Koranic verse]

Let us, dear brothers, be consistent with ourselves and remember that the honor of belonging to Islam, which has unified us all under its banner regardless of race or geographic origin, should purify our intentions and unify our wills and efforts to put an end to the bloodshed that is going on in this destructive war. Let us remember that there is no Islam severed from the Arabs and there are no Arabs severed from Islam. Let this conference, dear brothers, be the first step towards real Islamic solidarity and an occasion for renewed awareness of where our real interests lie, of what the real dangers are, and let us trust in Islam as our just arbiter. Let us discuss our problems, guided by our faith, and let us work together to put an end to this destructive war as an expression of what the Muslims everywhere really want in compliance with the spirit of Islamic tolerance and in faithfulness to their city of Jerusalem and its Al-Aqsa.

It is regrettable that the leaders in Tehran are absent from this meeting in which we are trying to unify our ranks under the banner of Islam, using arguments acceptable neither to reason nor to religion. Their absence, whatever their excuses, cannot be justified, for their behavior can only mean one thing: the weakening of Muslim ranks and the sowing of the seeds of discord among them which serves only the enemies of Islam. Hast thou not seen those who praise themselves for purity? Nay, Allah purifies who he will and they will not be wronged, even the hair upon a date stone. [Koranic verse] Our brethren in Tehran should know that the Muslim people of Iraq will continue to defend their land valiantly and to extend their hand for peace at the same time, and that Iran's refusal to put an end to the war and to settle their differences peacefully threatens Arab order and security and weakens the Islamic world as a whole by the continued loss of human and material resources and by feeling mutual hatred.

The only loser is the Muslim wherever he may be and the Arab wherever he may reside and the only victors are the enemies of Islam of all nationalities and creeds. We hope that our brothers in Tehran will respond to the call for peace, abide by the judgement of Islam, accept the dictates of reason and conscience, and abandon their belligerent attitude in this ugly and costly war. The peoples of Iran and Iraq are not bleeding alone. We, too, are bleeding. Their weakness is our weakness and our weakness is an open invitation to the enemies of Islam to persist in carrying out their evil intentions and in interfering in our affairs.

Dear brothers, 6 years ago when we met in Al-Ta'if as leaders of the Islamic world, I called for the adoption of a decisive stand to put an end to this war. I warned against the dangers that would likely arise if it were allowed to continue. Unfortunately, we were unable to reach such a decisive stand and we all know what the results have been: hundreds of thousands of people killed or wounded or maimed, widespread destruction in both countries, and further weakening of the ranks of the Arabs and Muslims alike. The grueling war, meanwhile, continues. Today we meet

once more as leaders of the Islamic world, representing the will of the Muslim ummah. Let us adopt that decisive stand which should have been adopted 6 years ago and which would have spared the lives of hundreds of thousands of Muslims and spared us incalculable moral and material losses.

Let us adopt a resolution calling for an immediate cease-fire to be conveyed to both sides prior to a settlement acceptable to both. Let us adopt that resolution in compliance with God's command which favors neither side at the expense of the other. Things have reached a critical stage that brooks no hesitation or delay. The issue is essentially a dispute over border lines. Such disputes can be easily resolved by peaceful means and according to historical agreements and documents. Let us take our decision today, not tomorrow. Otherwise, how can we live with our conscience as Muslim leaders, knowing that hundreds of thousands of Muslims have perished and that many others will perish if we fail to take our stand. It is now a question whether we do indeed act as responsible Muslim leaders at this critical moment in our history. Let us fear God in what we do and my prayer to Him is that He grant us the will and power to rise up to our responsibility in adopting this historical decision. Only then will we be in a position to prepare ourselves to make God's enemy and ours fear us. Only then will we be in a state of readiness to deliver Jerusalem, our holy places, our people, and our land.

Dear brothers, there is no doubt that the solution of the conflict between Iraq and Iran is the key to the solution of other conflicts in the Islamic world, especially in Lebanon. It is also an important step towards the liberation of Islamic lands from foreign occupation. In Lebanon our differences are spilling over in its midst, and people, as consequence, are dying from hunger and bullets. Divisions and alliances there have opened chinks in our armor through which all the enemies of our people have infiltrated to play with us the feuding game and to make us continue our own game of self-destruction. In the cities, villages, streets, and camps of Lebanon there is tragedy and there is blood. There is also a bewildering irony. For whenever the valiant national resistance movement brings in a ray of hope in the course of its struggle against Zionist occupation, that ray is immediately extinguished by sectarian and intercommunal fighting. Strenuous efforts must be exerted to put an end to this senseless civil strife. For what logic is there in sustaining it?

As I hail the Lebanese national resistance movement, I call upon the warring Lebanese factions to make loyalty to Lebanon and the unity of its territories the only criterion in their dialogue. I also call upon all those members of this conference who can influence events in Lebanon to use such influence to stop the civil war first and then to achieve national reconciliation among the various parties.

In Afghanistan there are indications that reconciliation between warring factions could be under way. While we stand behind the Afghan people in their fight for liberty and independence, we nevertheless hope that all sides to the conflict will not lose this opportunity to settle their differences and that they will embark upon fruitful dialogue leading to national reconciliation that will ensure for Muslim Afghanistan its independence and neutrality.

As for the occupied territories of Palestine, it is enough to say

that Zionist occupation has reached its 20th year and that the call of the muezzin in the Al-Aqsa Mosque is now drowned by the alien voices of the settlers who are relentlessly trying to erase all signs of Arab and Islamic presence in the area. And yet the Palestinian people are still valiantly struggling for and steadfastly insisting on their legitimate rights, fully aware of their historical responsibility in maintaining their physical, spiritual, and cultural presence in their own homeland, looking at the same time for support from an ummah which is divided in order for them to withstand the onslaught of the forces of occupation and to regain their rights and the requirements of their national independence. For them to be able to persist in their steadfastness, they need the unflinching support of the Islamic ummah which in turn needs to be united against the common enemy.

Jordan, which has with other Muslim nations in the area been shouldering the task of standing up to Zionist aggression and the consequences of Zionist occupation due to its geographic position, and true to its national commitment, will continue to give every possible assistance to the Palestinian people against Zionist aggressive and expansionist policies. As I mentioned before, the liberation of Jerusalem and the occupied territories required certain preparations, foremost among which is the settlement of both Arab and Islamic conflicts. The Iraq-Iran conflict should be the first problem to be resolved in order to preserve all our capabilities and to mobilize and direct them against the intransigent enemy who is going on with his expansionist plans against Arab and Muslim lands, their holy city and shrine. This enemy realizes that war among Muslims keeps them away from Jerusalem and, accordingly, works with his allies who share with him enmity to Islam and the desire to exploit our resources to prolong this war and to drain the human and material resources of the Muslims in the hope of making the Islamic world open to his adventurous expansionist policies as has been made abundantly clear by the history of the Palestinian problem and the Gulf war.

Dear brothers, besides our enemy's efforts to weaken the Muslims, feed their internal conflict, and internationalize their problems, we are witnessing today a carefully concerted campaign with limited success to tarnish our Islamic image by linking Islam to acts of terrorism carried out by certain individuals and groups. Islam, our religion, strongly condemns and abhors such acts. Islam, in which a preservation of human life is a basic principle, prohibits any unlawful killing except in jihad for the cause of God. Who so fightest in the way of Allah be he slain or be he victorious, on him we shall bestow a vast reward [Koranic verse].

Murder without justification is not only prohibited. Slay not the life which Allah has made sacred save in the course of justice. [Koranic verse] It is actually taken to be tantamount to a murder of mankind. Whosoever killeth a human being for other than manslaughter or corruption in the earth, it shall be as if he had killed all mankind, and whoso saveth the life of one, it shall be as if he had saved the life of all mankind. [Koranic verse] What human charter can measure up to the humanitarianism of its religion and its civilization?

And yet we are held responsible for the acts of an individual here and another there. The wicked campaign has even been trying to lay at our door the responsibility for international acts of terror

perpetrated in various parts of the world. We do not hear of terrorist acts ascribed to the religion of their perpetrators except in the case of Arabs and Muslims. Why? Because the enemies of the Arabs and the Muslims find in acts of terror an easy means to distort our image and to isolate us to justify their acts of aggression or to perpetuate their hegemony and carry out their expansionist policies in our lands which are strategically important both in terms of geography and resources.

Our Arab and Islamic causes, foremost among which is the Palestinian cause, are just ones and we must not replace our struggle, which is legitimate in human, legal, and international terms, with terrorist acts that can only blemish our struggle, thwart its momentum, and provide our enemies with an opportunity to confuse both kinds of endeavor and to stultify the justice of our causes or even to suppress them altogether. We must all declare our just verdict in this regard and put an end to the acts of those few who have distorted our image and harmed our causes.

I would like to take this opportunity to stress the importance of the Islamic solidarity fund which finances cultural, social, scientific, and religious institutions in member-states and among Muslim minorities in other parts of the world. The tasks the fund is undertaking are very important and we must give it the attention it deserves, especially at this time when Islam and the Muslims are facing rabid campaigns of defamation and distortion. I propose that the fund be more active in financing the writing and publication of books about Islamic laws and principles in the main foreign languages. It is unfortunate that very few books in these languages available in university libraries and research centers have been composed by Muslims. Most of the material available to those interested in Islam has been produced by hostile contemporaries who have used tendentious information and wrong impressions about Islam inherited from the Middle Ages and popularized by travelers and Orientalists. I am calling to increase the endowment of the Islamic solidarity fund in order that it may carry out its function effectively. Needless to say, whatever progress may be achieved in this regard will be easily offset or even negated if some Muslims continue to perpetrate in the name of Islam acts that are diametrically opposed to the humanitarianism of Islam and its dictates in peace and wartime, such as acts of terrorism and the murder of prisoners of war.

I would also like to suggest another scholarly project and that is the writing by qualified Muslim historians of the common history of the Islamic peoples, the spirit of love and peace, knowledge and faith. Islamic civilization, with its wonderful contribution to the progress of mankind and the civilization of the world, has not been created by any single Muslim people. It is the collective project over more than a thousand years of all Islamic people. This great heritage has always been a source of inspiration and pride to every Muslim and must continue to be so. One of the best means of strengthening mutual understanding, harmony, and cooperation among future Muslim generations is enshrining this glorious heritage in books on our common history that are free of all such elements as might arouse hatred and friction among the Islamic peoples. For our task as an Islamic organization is not only to protect the Muslims of today, but also to protect future Muslim generations against the errors of the past and the present. It may be useful in this connection to mention the

existence of the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilization Research Foundation in Amman. The academy is run by a distinguished council of Muslim scholars from all Islamic countries and communities. The academy is a viable institution that can be depended upon together with other institutes and establishments to carry out such scholarly projects.

Dear brothers, the worries of the Islamic world are numerous and complicated and there is no time to deal with each one of them separately. It is clear, however, that the state of the Islamic world is far from gratifying. God has vouchsafed us a great religion, an important strategic position, and considerable human and economic resources that could have been put to better use in the light of the Islamic principles of cooperation and solidarity. We could have used what God's bounty has vouchsafed us in order to regain our rights and to achieve progress and welfare for our people. It is my belief that the Islamic world is still capable of rising up to the distinction God has chosen to give this ummah, which He made the best community that has been raised up for mankind. I am confident that a little thorough searching and an honest review of what we have been doing will direct us again to work seriously and selflessly to settle our differences and to direct the march of this ummah so that it may achieve the glory and respect it richly deserves.

Our true faith, together with the Charter of the Islamic Conference Organization, and its various organs should be our guide in our common endeavors aimed at securing God's approval and the glory of Islam. May God grant us guidance and may He direct us to the path of righteousness. O ye who believe, obey Allah and the messenger when He calleth you to that which quickeneth you. And know that Allah cometh in between the man and his own heart and that He it is under whom ye will be gathered. [Koranic verse]

Zia on Afghanistan, India

BK271639 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has made a strong appeal to the Islamic world to face its serious political and economic challenges with determination and political will. Addressing the Fifth ICO Summit in Kuwait this morning, the president said if we fail to do so we will lose the confidence of the Islamic community and the progress achieved thus far will be in vain. He added that the current summit provides the most timely opportunity to review the developments that have led to the present crisis in the Islamic world. We will have to identify and implement concrete and effective measures for joint efforts to promote Islamic solidarity.

Referring to the Iran-Iraq war, he said it is a tragedy and even after the 7 years of bloodshed and destruction the Islamic world continues to be afflicted by it. There are no signs of an end to this tragedy. In contrast, there are fears of further intensification of the war, which has hurt the Islamic world. The president said Pakistan desires peace between Iran and Iraq. In this connection, he referred to the sincere efforts of the Islamic peace committee and other organizations. He said the committee's proposals and suggestions provide prospects for an honorable and just res-

olution of this issue. He emphasized reactivating the commission's mission and appealed to both Iran and Iraq to end this aimless war for God's sake.

On Lebanon, he urged the Islamic countries to make a concerted effort to end its problems. Regarding Al-Qods [Jerusalem], the president said it is our sacred duty to restore Arab and Muslim sovereignty over this holy city. He also emphasized aid to the Palestinians' struggle to achieve their national inalienable right to return to their homeland.

The president said the Islamic world continues to be concerned with the Afghan tragedy. The Soviet Union, by attacking this member-nation of the ICO 7 years ago, forced more than 5 million people to take refuge in Pakistan and Iran. He said that the ICO had rejected military intervention in Afghanistan, which had brought to bear international pressure [on the Soviet Union] to withdraw its forces. The president said the key issue on Afghanistan is the presence of Soviet troops, and their withdrawal in a reasonable time is imperative for normalization there.

The president also referred to the recent in-depth and useful discussions between Pakistan and the Soviet Union in Islamabad, which will continue in Moscow before the next round of indirect talks in Geneva. He said the talks will review all possibilities of a political solution to the Afghan problem within the framework of adopted ICO principles. He expressed the hope that the Geneva negotiations will progress rapidly. They will mainly consider fixing an acceptable, brief period for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

The president also referred to Pakistan's efforts to promote good-neighborly relations with India, which have been affected by the massive concentration of Indian troops near the Pakistani border and India's other military measures. However, he said that both sides have agreed to consultations at the diplomatic level, and it is hoped that measures will be taken soon to defuse the tension.

The president referred to the Jammu and Kashmir dispute, saying it was one of several obstacles that have to be surmounted in the process of normalizing relations with India. He said we have assured India of our desire to resolve this issue, as well as others, peacefully in accord with the spirit of the Simla agreement and UN resolutions.

Pirzada Presents Report

LD272041 Kuwait KUNA in English 1838 GMT 27 Jan 87

[All quotation marks as received]

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 27 (KUNA) — The secretary general of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) Tuesday expressed his deep concern over the situation in the Middle East and in Palestine which he described as 'the prime cause of the Islamic Nation'.

The OIC chief Sharifuddin Pirzada in a lengthy report presented to the Islamic summit here today referred to the challenges facing the Islamic world and urged the Islamic leaders to 'under-

take a critical self-examination with a view to removing the basic causes which lead to internal divisions and renew their determination to confront the dangers facing the Islamic world unitedly'.

Referring to the evil designs of the Zionist entity, Pirzada said the 'enemy has rejected all efforts to finding a comprehensive and peaceful solution to the conflict in the Middle East including the proposal to hold an international peace conference in the Middle East, as decided upon by the U.N. General Assembly and endorsed by the OIC'.

This bleak situation, he said, demands immediate redress. 'We must resolve our differences peacefully and pool our resources to confront the enemy', he stressed.

Pirzada in his report tackled a large number of issues dealt with at the Islamic summit and referring to the Iran-Iraq war, he said, it has continued unabated and the recent escalation of the war which has resulted in the loss of thousands of lives on both sides has aggravated the situation further.

This war, he said, has depleted the resources of the entire Islamic nation. It has resulted in colossal losses of life to both sides and incalculable damage to property. Billions of dollars have been wasted in the purchase of arms for a bloody war which was neither in the interest of either country nor that of the Islamic nation as a whole.

'Our enemies no doubt are delighted at this state of affairs. We can only mourn', said Pirzada.

Referring to the nuclear technology, Pirzada said that the OIC member states 'must develop a credible and effective response to this dire development.

Israel would not hesitate to use terrible nuclear weapons in any crisis, he warned.

The Islamic world must increase its own capabilities in the field of science and technology to achieve independence in this vital field and to develop a dependable bulwark of defence against the expansionist designs of Israel, Pirzada stressed.

'We must also seek international guarantees against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons against the non-nuclear weapons Islamic states', Pirzada asked the OIC member-states.

The Islamic nation is in a deep crisis at all (?levels) Pirzada said adding 'our peoples expect our leaders to find solutions to the grave problems affecting the Islamic world in the political, economic, social, cultural, information and other fields. 'We must find a way out of this predicament', he said.

Referring to the most needed unity among the Muslims states, Pirzada appealed to the heads of Islamic states and governments 'to remove internal divisions and internecine conflicts, to cooperate with each other, to decrease dependence on ousted glory that was Islam.

Arab Leaders To Hold 'Unofficial' Summit

JN271854 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1820 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, 27 Jan (WAKH) — Arab diplomatic sources said in Kuwait this evening it has been decided that the Arab leaders will hold an unofficial summit tomorrow, Wednesday, under the chairmanship of the Amir of Kuwait His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah. These sources told WAKH that all Arab countries have agreed to attend the summit. Some Arab countries suggested this meeting should be unofficial to review various Arab issues in light of the present circumstances. These sources noted that Egypt might take part in this meeting, which will be held in connection with the Fifth ICO Summit being held in Kuwait.

Arab sources said that intensive efforts were exerted by the Kuwaiti amir and the Arab League secretary general during consultations with Arab leaders today. The sources added these efforts were successful. Observers believe the meeting will be a positive turning point to solve many problems facing the Arab world. The same sources showed optimism that reconciliation among Arab states, which were not identified, will be achieved after this meeting, which will fix a new date for the Arab summit scheduled to be held in Saudi Arabia.

Political observers believe Arab countries are exerting efforts to end Arab differences, which have obstructed and cracked Arab solidarity, affecting Arab international relations, particularly on the Middle East issue. Observers believe that convening this meeting in Kuwait is a victory for Kuwaiti diplomacy in gathering the Arab leaders in one meeting to discuss the decisive issues facing the Arab world.

ICO Goodwill Committee Discusses Gulf War

LD261517 Kuwait KUNA in English 1311 GMT 26 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 26 (KUNA) — An OIC-formed Islamic Goodwill Committee assigned to find means of ending the Iraq-Iran armed confrontation ended a meeting Monday at the Kuwait conference center at the level of heads of state.

The committee members reviewed a report tabled by head of the committee, Gambian president Dawda Jawara, on efforts to halt the Gulf war.

The meeting was attended by presidents of Turkey, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Guinea and the PLO along with Indonesian vice president and foreign ministers of Malaysia and Senegal and the OIC secretary general, Sharifuddin Pirzada.

Pirzada, who visited Tehran last December, told the conferees that the latest escalation in the Iraq-Iran war has led to severe human and material losses. He said the escalation was "threatening regional and international peace and security."

He said that the foreign ministers preparatory meetings which concluded sitting here yesterday had expressed deep concern over "continuation of escalated warring."

The ministerial meeting endorsed a draft proposal on the Iraq-Iran dispute, Pirzada said but refused to give details.

The committee held a meeting at the OIC headquarters in Jeddah last November and asked Pirzada and Jawara to continue contacts with both warring parties and prepare a report to be tabled with the Fifth Islamic Summit.

Soviet Greeting Message to Summit Reported

LD260939 Kuwait KUNA in English 0816 GMT 26 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow, Jan 26 (KUNA) — On the occasion of holding the Fifth Islamic Summit in Kuwait today, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet sent a message of greetings to chairman of the conference H.H. the Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad. The message, which began with greeting all participants in the conference, turned to the difficult circumstances under which this event is held. The message warned from an arms race which could bring the world to a nuclear war and eventual disaster. The Soviets blamed those who call for peace while they build up their nuclear space program. When it came to war and peace, the Soviet Union made its choice to be an advocate of peace, to end the arms race and achieving disarmament. The Soviet Union believes that any gathering to resolve any conflict can do a great deal in accomplishing this goal. The Soviet Union shares much concern over all Middle East issues particularly the Palestinian cause and stresses the withdrawal of all Israeli troops from all occupied Arab territories, the message said.

The message added that an international peace conference to settle the issue is a long time due. This idea was approved at the Eighth Non-Aligned Summit Conference in Harare and was endorsed by the 41st session of the UN General Assembly. The Soviet Union also fears the consequences of the Iraqi-Iranian war and uses every opportunity in an effort to convince the warring parties to stop this bloodshed.

As for the issue of Afghanistan, which was occupied by the Soviet Union in 1979, the USSR said that it does not intend to stay there for long and that it had demonstrated its stance by sending home some of its forces and pledged to speed up the withdrawal process if a political settlement is achieved.

Ending the message, the Soviet Union expressed its hope for the Islamic conference to produce tangible contributions to peace and international security.

'Arafat Seeks Gulf War Decisions at ICO Summit

LD251128 Kuwait KUNA in English 0833 GMT 25 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 25 (KUNA) — PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has reiterated an earlier initiative for the deployment of Islamic disengagement forces between warring Iraq and Iran in a bid to end that war.

He told *'Al-Ray' al-Amm'* published Sunday that he tabled the proposal at meetings of the Organization of Islamic Conference-formed goodwill committee but it was rejected.

The Palestinian leader noted that previous Islamic summit resolutions had allowed the committee to use Islamic forces to disengage troops but the Palestinian proposal in this respect was turned down.

The OIC goodwill committee headed by Gambia, groups the PLO, Senegal, Bangladesh, Turkey, Pakistan, Guinea and Malaysia along with the organization's secretary general.

'Arafat said that the Fifth Islamic Conference in Kuwait should pass decisive resolutions particularly toward the Gulf war which he said occupies priority of importance to the Islamic world.

He emphasized that the Iraq-Iran war should be first tended before deliberating the camps war in Lebanon. Lebanese Amal Movement has been attacking Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut and south Lebanon since late September 1986. A present lull in fighting has been reported since early January yet still Amal elements besiege refugee camps and skirmishes are reported.

'Arafat said that he will meet with King Husayn of Jordan at sidelines of the Islamic summit along with other Moscow leaders and hoped that a new page will be turned in Palestinian-Jordanian relations.

The PLO chief, however, ruled out the possibility of the convening of an Arab summit at sidelines of the Islamic conference but said that Arab meetings will be held.

The issue of the Palestinian presence in Lebanon should be resolved in the conference, he said, adding that the camps war targets forcing a Palestinian exodus from Lebanon.

'Arafat underlined that a detailed Palestinian work paper will be tabled with the Islamic summit tackling the camps war, situation of the Palestinian people in the occupied homeland, Gulf war, hot Islamic questions and inter-Islamic economic and technological cooperation.

The Palestinian leader said that objections raised by certain countries over a number of topics will be overruled by the majority and stressed that justice is not required when discussing and deciding on causes but rather support.

Claims UK-Iranian Coordination

LD261000 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0831 GMT 26 Jan 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 26 Jan (KUNA) — In an interview with the UAE newspaper *Al-Ittihad* in conjunction with the Paris-based magazine *Al-Yawm Al-Sabi'*, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat said that he will ask the Islamic summit conference, scheduled to begin its meetings in Kuwait today, to form an Islamic force to end the Iran-Iran war, by force if necessary.

He said that many Islamic leaders share his views about the need for decisive measures on the ground to put an end to the Islamic bloodshed and to spare the Muslim blood.

He stressed that there is military coordination between Iran and Britain and that he has precise information affirming that last year's attack on Al-Faw was planned by Britain and that the recent American deal encouraged Iran to launch its present offensive.

He added that "the recent U.S. statements that Washington will not permit the occupation of Basra reflect a U.S. desire to blackmail the Gulf countries." He said he has sent messages to

the Iranian leadership warning that continuation of the war will act as an invitation to the U.S., British, and French fleets to intervene in the Gulf and take up positions there.

He pointed out that the camps war in Lebanon has so far claimed the lives of 4,000 martyrs and caused injury to 80,000 Palestinian refugees, in addition to the total extermination of 4 camps in the vicinity of Tyre. He said the camps wars have delayed the Palestine National Council meeting.

Exocet Missile Hits Tanker in Persian Gulf

NC281103 Athens Domestic Service in Greek 1030 GMT
28 Jan 87

[Text] Early this morning, the 237,000-ton Greek tanker *Takpik* was hit by an Exocet missile while plying the Persian Gulf. It is not yet known whether there are any casualties. In addition, there are no reports on the extent of the damage. Tugboats *Matsas 2*, *Matsas 3*, and *Smith Colombo*, which are always on the alert in the Gulf area, went to the aid of *Takpik*.

BAHRAIN**Cypriot Interior Minister Departs 23 Jan**

JN231824 Manama WAKH in English 1535 GMT 23 Jan 87

[Text] Manama, Jan 23 (GNA) — Cypriot Interior Minister Konstandinos Mikhailidhis and his accompanying delegation left Manama today for Kuwait after a two-day visit to the island as part of a regional tour.

During his stay, the Cypriot minister delivered a written message from President Spiros Kiprianou of Cyprus to H.H. the Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah dealing with bilateral relations.

He was seen off by Bahraini Interior Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah al Khalifah and other officials.

KUWAIT**Cypriot Interior Minister Arrives for Talks**

NC252122 Nicosia Television Service in Greek
1830 GMT 25 Jan 87

[Text] Interior Minister Konstandinos Mikhailidhis arrived in Kuwait from Bahrain on his tour of Arab states. He presented the amir with a personal message from President Spiros Kiprianou on the latest Cyprus developments. He also met privately with Sa'ud al-'Usaymi, minister of state for foreign affairs, who reiterated Kuwait's firm and sincere support of the Cypriot people's struggle for a just and viable solution to the Cyprus issue.

Mikhailidhis visited the Palace of Conferences, where the Fifth ICO Summit is taking place, and met privately with Faruq Qaddumi, PLO Political Department head, whom he briefed on the latest Cyprus developments.

Paper Lauds Mubarak's ICO Summit Participation

JN261612 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic
25 Jan 87 pp 1, 17

[Editorial: "Welcome to the Fraternal President"]

[Text] Welcome President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. He is welcome in Kuwait, his second home, among his people and kinfolk. He is welcome as an Arab leader and as a Muslim and

world leader who has the qualities of leadership and the abilities that make him worthy of respect, appreciation, and confidence.

His principled stands on both the Arab and Muslim levels qualify him as one of the stars of the Islamic summit in Kuwait. In his relations and in his view of Arab and Muslim issues, he proceeds from an overall perspective and not from a regional one. His actions confirm his beliefs and he acts from a stance of principled commitment to the defense of Arab and Muslim causes and to making every effort to champion these causes and to further the Arab and Muslim cause at every forum.

Welcome to the distinguished guest in our country, the country of love and peace. Welcome to Jabir's [Amir of Kuwait] guest who, despite his many preoccupations, chose to be the first leader to arrive in Kuwait and to exchange with its leaders and people sentiments of brotherhood, amity, and love. We are fully aware of the importance of Egypt's influence in the Arab and Muslim arena and are aware of the leading role which Egypt exercises within its regional and international sphere. It is not a new role, but an extension of Egypt's truly Arab and Islamic perspective. Islam is a universal religion in its propensities and goals, and Egypt has acted according to such a concept of Islam and Arabism throughout its history.

That is Egypt today and that is what it was in the 1940s when it sent the first group of teachers to Kuwait who laid down the foundations of Kuwait's progress in education and paid their salaries, bonuses, and expenses. That generous fraternal gesture embodied true fraternal relations totally divorced from direct or indirect self-interest.

That is Egypt and that is its bright history. When we welcome its distinguished leader we welcome in his person Egypt's great contributions and sincere sentiments of love. Egypt has never hesitated to carry out its duty or to undertake any mission that has a noble goal. On the contrary, Egypt has maintained and continues to maintain a presence in Kuwait and throughout the Arab world through its judges, engineers, experts, and fine work force. Egypt is present through its citizens who by their contributions and in cooperation with their Kuwaiti and Arab brothers have turned Kuwait into a living example of what relations among brothers should be like — open relations with no impediments or limits.

Once again, welcome to the distinguished president. There are factors which make his presence at and participation in the Islamic gathering in Kuwait acquire a special importance and glitter. That is because Egypt's participation for the first time since regaining its ICO membership at the Fourth ICO Summit in Casablanca inspires us with hope and optimism. We believe estrangement among brothers is a transient event bound to wither away in the face of greater truths. The first of such truths is that Arab and Muslim Egypt does not compromise or prevaricate, particularly when the issue involved is purely Arab or Islamic. Egypt is always in the forefront with its true commitment and altruistic actions.

Welcome to President Muhammad Husni Mubarak in Kuwait, an honorable brother and a Muslim Arab leader.

PDRY

'Abdallah Receives Libyan, Indian Envoys

EA272142 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Text] Brother Fadl Muhsin 'Abdallah, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee, received Brother Muhammad 'Umar al-Farsi, secretary of the Libyan Arab People's Bureau in Aden, in his office this morning.

During the meeting, they discussed relations between the two brotherly countries and ways to develop them. They also reviewed the current situation in the area and exchanged views on this subject.

On the same day Brother Fadl Muhsin 'Abdallah met (Vevid Mandresh), the Indian ambassador in Aden. During the meeting, they reviewed the situation in the area and relations between the two brotherly countries and ways to develop them.

IRNA: Foreign Minister Receives Iranian Envoy

LD271209 Tehran IRNA in English 1100 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 27, IRNA — The Iranian ambassador to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY) Hasan Aminia conferred with the country's Acting Foreign Minister Shaye' Mohsen in Aden on Monday.

The South Yemeni minister told the Iranian ambassador at the meeting that his government was satisfied with what he termed the 'successful' visit of the country's foreign minister to Iran, and that relations between the two countries were expanding in a positive manner.

Aminia briefed the Yemeni official on latest developments of the Iraqi-imposed war as well as Iran's latest military victories in the Karbala'-5 and 6 operations. He also clarified to PDRY minister Iran's reasons for not participating in the organization of the Islamic Conference Summit in Kuwait.

Aminia further said that the Islamic Republic attaches a great deal of importance ensuring the security of the region, and that she is determined to gain victory and defend her rights.

SAUDI ARABIA

Crown Prince Receives Palestinian Officials

LD251143 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
1045 GMT 25 Jan 87

[Text] Riyadh, 25 Jan (SPA) — His Royal Highness Amir 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister, and head of the National Guard, received Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, in his office this morning. The meeting was attended by adviser to the crown prince 'Abd al-Muhsin ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Tuwayjri, and by the PLO representative in the Kingdom, Rafiq al-Natshah.

UAE

President Receives Message From Al-Qadhdhafi

JN241943 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1905 GMT 24 Jan 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 24 Jan (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, heir apparent and deputy commander in chief of the UAE Armed Forces, received a message from Libyan leader Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi for His Highness President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan.

The message was delivered by Bashir al-Mughayribi, the Libyan leader's envoy, during an audience with His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid today.

WAM reported that the message deals with means to develop bilateral relations and the latest developments in the region.

YAR

Al-'Amri Departs For Arab Agricultural Meeting

JN241522 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 24 Jan 87

[Text] Brother Dr Husayn al-'Amri, agricultural and fisheries minister, left for Baghdad today leading our country's delegation to the 13th session of the Arab Organization Council for Agricultural Development, which will be held there from 26-29 January.

In a statement to SABA, the brother minister said that this session will discuss agricultural issues that interest our Arab countries, particularly food security issues. He added that the delegation will present a report to the session including a detailed explanation of the steps achieved by our country in the field of agricultural development with the aim of attaining self-sufficiency.

Al-Majid on Kuwait Summit, Pan-Arab Relations

PM231459 London *AL-MAJALLAH* in Arabic 21-27 Jan 87
pp 19-20

[Interview with Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid by 'Abd al-Latif al-Minawi in Cairo; date not given]

[Text] [Al-Minawi] Some reports and information speak of Egyptian-Arab coordination at all levels. What are the limits of this coordination in advance of the fifth Islamic summit conference to be attended by Egypt and other Arab and Islamic states?

['Abd al-Majid] We are proceeding with this coordination and these contacts at all levels. It is not strange they are taking place at this particular time. We trust most Arab states understand and appreciate our attitude. We respond to such appreciation in connection with major issues of interest to us, such as the Palestinian question, the Iraq-Iran war, and inter-Arab relations. We explain our views to the Arab brothers on every occasion.

[Al-Minawi] Have there been contacts with all the Arab and Islamic sides?

['Abd al-Majid] No, we have only had contacts with the close and friendly states which share common ideas with us.

[Al-Minawi] On the Iraq-Iran war, will Egypt be submitting a plan for ending it and, if so, what are the main features of this plan?

['Abd al-Majid] Let us just say our position regarding the need to put an end to the war is a reasonable position. There is a good offices committee created by the ICO. We support the work of that committee and will support it at the next summit conference so it may play its part more effectively. We are eager to see a peaceful settlement, but at the same time we realize there are major difficulties because the current grinding battles do not make a peaceful settlement any easier. We must make efforts but success does not depend on us.

[Al-Minawi] What are the features of the Egyptian endeavor to bring about an end to the war?

['Abd al-Majid] It is not just an Egyptian endeavor. Other Islamic and Arab states are also making efforts to end the war. The summit conference which, God willing, will be held in Kuwait may be an opportunity for the leaders to find solutions leading to that. We hope Iran will respond. So far only Iraq has been responding, but not Iran. If Iran does not respond all efforts will be in vain.

[Al-Minawi] There are reports about an Egyptian plan consisting of several points. The most important is an Egyptian call for a transitional period during which a truce would be declared and the military battles would be halted. During that period an Islamic committee would try to reconcile the two sides, and if either side refuses to abide by the summit resolution a unanimous condemnation of that side and support for the other would be issued and the necessary measures taken to prevent harm to the

other states as a result of escalated fighting. Are these points accurate?

['Abd al-Majid] Any such attempt should begin with a cease-fire. Since we are talking about the Iraq-Iran war, the UN secretary general is trying to convene a UN Security Council meeting at the foreign minister level to discuss the latest developments, as the war has escalated and civilian targets are being hit hard. There can be no doubt that the Red Cross has also taken a stand. All this shows the international community is moving strongly, and Egypt supports it in that.

[Al-Minawi] You have been quoted by an Egyptian paper as saying Egypt would firmly and resolutely confront any attempt to undermine Islamic solidarity, jeopardize the summit conference, or divert it from its objectives. Does this mean Egypt has information that there are in fact attempts to obstruct the summit conference?

['Abd al-Majid] I want to emphasize Egypt is going to the conference with an open heart and an open mind. Its sole objective is the success of the conference and the consolidation of Arab and Islamic solidarity. If some insult Egypt and try to attack it, the blame will fall on whoever starts such attacks, and they will have to bear the consequences of their attacks. Egypt will not remain idle, but will not initiate any attacks and will not undermine any Arab or Islamic state even if there are differences of opinion. We believe every state has a right to disagree with the others. I have frequently stated that Egypt has no intention of lecturing anyone and is not prepared to be lectured by anyone. This being our position, why should we turn the Islamic conference into an arena for trading accusations? All elements of success are available as a result of the contacts held and the spirit shown by 99 percent of the Arab and Islamic states. Without doubt, Egypt is perfectly willing to make every effort to ensure the success of the conference.

[Al-Minawi] Egypt has requested two additional items be included on the agenda. This seems to run contrary to the reports of an Egyptian-Syrian rapprochement and of attempts to arrange a high level meeting between Egypt and Syria.

['Abd al-Majid] I have already said the side which initiates attacks is the one to blame. We did not start the attacks and I want to say on the pages of *Al-Majallah* that there is no enmity between the Egyptian and Syrian people, just as there is no enmity between the Egyptian and Libyan people. We are certain all the Arab peoples are close and there is profound mutual sympathy between them, but some of the governments are hostile to Egypt and they force Egypt to retaliate. Egypt has considerable resources, abilities, and information.

[Al-Minawi] Does this mean that not long ago there were attempts to bridge the gap between the views of the two sides and to clear the air between Egypt and Syria, but a certain reaction or position hampered these attempts?

['Abd al-Majid] Let us just say there is no enmity between us and Syria. We want to hear Syrian voices not hostile to Egypt. Egypt appreciates reason and levelheadedness, but, at the same time,

strongly condemns and confronts any attacks on or insults directed at it. This, quite clearly, is our position.

[Al-Minawi] President Mubarak will meet with the amir of Kuwait the day before the conference starts. What, in your view, is the significance of this meeting?

['Abd al-Majid] I believe the president is most eager to meet with his brother the amir of Kuwait. The meetings scheduled to take place during the conference look promising, thank God. It is time for solidarity. That would please every sincere Arab.

[Al-Minawi] Will Egypt be more interested in these peripheral meetings than in the main conference meetings in Kuwait.

['Abd al-Majid] Side meetings occur in all conferences. They complement the main meetings. We are interested in both, and I can say from my experience at the United Nations and elsewhere peripheral meetings are just as important if not more important than the conference hall meetings.

[Al-Minawi] Have meetings been arranged between President Mubarak and Arab leaders?

['Abd al-Majid] As far as I know no arrangements for such meetings have been made yet.

[Al-Minawi] One of the focal issues in Egypt's foreign policy is the Palestinian question and ways of settling it. It seems numerous difficulties make the revival of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement doubtful for the time being. Bearing in mind Egypt considers that agreement to be the cornerstone of its policy, what is the alternative for Egyptian diplomacy?

['Abd al-Majid] We must emphasize Jordanian-Palestinian rapprochement is an aim of Egyptian diplomatic efforts. All the meetings Egypt held with the Jordanian and Palestinian brothers testify to that. We are certain every Arab will be happy to know Egypt, under the leadership of its president, is working most seriously for Jordanian-Palestinian rapprochement.

[Al-Minawi] There are speculations that Egypt is arranging a meeting between Yasir 'Arafat and King Husayn in Kuwait. How true is that?

['Abd al-Majid] I have no such information, but this is up to King Husayn and brother Yasir 'Arafat.

[Al-Minawi] How does Egypt feel about Jordan's development plan for the West Bank?

['Abd al-Majid] We believe the Jordanian plan is for the good of the West Bank and the Gaza strip. It should be clearly understood we fully appreciate and respect it, but, at the same time, want the development plan to be formulated in coordination with the Palestinian brothers so it may bear fruit and produce the desired results in the Gaza strip and the West Bank.

[Al-Minawi] Will the summit conference in any way tackle the reports and information circulating about a French concept and

a U.S. concept of a move in the Middle East conveyed by U.S. envoy Richard Murphy?

['Abd al-Majid] Actually, there is no such thing as a U.S. scenario or a French scenario, but we could say the states concerned hold contacts with all sides: the United States, the Soviet Union, and the European states headed by France. President Mubarak has made such contacts and is currently in consultation with King Husayn. The Spanish prime minister has recently visited Egypt. Before that, he was in Tunisia, where he met with Yasir 'Arafat. Egypt is holding contacts with several EEC states and is working very seriously to reactivate the Palestinian question and end the deadlock. The outcome of these contacts is a rich one and it contains pluses and minuses. Our task is to increase the positive aspects and eliminate the negative ones. This, in fact, is our approach to settling the Palestinian question.

[Al-Minawi] What is Egypt's position on the Gulf security question?

['Abd al-Majid] The security of the Gulf is part of Egypt's national security. We are very much interested in the sovereignty, independence, and security of the Gulf states. We all form a single integral unit. Let this be clearly understood. There can be no doubt consultations between Egypt and all the Gulf states are going on all the time. Egypt clearly supports Iraq. It wants the war to end and stability to prevail in the interest of Iraq and all the Gulf states. We say it very clearly. There is no need for me to add anything to what I have said, which is clear.

[Al-Minawi] Are you optimistic about success of the Islamic summit conference, and if so, why?

['Abd al-Majid] We do not deny there are difficulties. There are attempts to abort the conference, postpone it, or hold it in a state other than Kuwait. We are opposed to that. We are aware of the difficulties but we will do our best for its success. Let us just say there is cautious optimism based on the latent strength of the Arab and Islamic nations. There are capabilities and they are coming together to foil any attempt to abort the conference or prevent its success.

Further Comments

JN251930 Cairo *AL-MUSAWWAR* In Arabic
23 Jan 87 pp 18, 19

[Interview with 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, by correspondent Salwa Abu Sa'dah in Cairo; date not given]

[Text] [Abu Sa'dah] Concerning the Islamic summit scheduled to open in Kuwait on 26 January, what are the subjects on its agenda and which of them will top the list?

['Abd al-Majid] There are numerous topics, all of which are important and of relevance both to the Muslim and Arab worlds. Perhaps the Arab issues that will come before the conference are the tougher ones, with the exception of Afghanistan. We are going to the summit in the spirit outlined by President Mubarak

in a recent interview with *Al-Ittihad*; that is, mindful of our responsibilities in the Arab and Muslim arenas, we are approaching the summit with an open heart to make it a success, and to work for improved relations with all of the participants. We recognize and accept there are differences in outlook, which is natural. However, we do see eye to eye on certain issues.

[Abu Sa'dah] Can you specify the issues on which there is disagreement?

[Abd al-Majid] The differences are not of our own making. Certain countries are out to force unacceptable policies on Egypt. Take for instance an item which Syrian wanted listed on the summit agenda. We were dismayed Syria had made such a proposal at a time when the Islamic conference Organization [ICO] is experiencing difficult circumstances. Syria and other countries might have left the bilateral differences to be sorted out bilaterally, outside the Islamic summit. After all, we have no fundamental differences with Syria.

[Abu Sa'dah] What are the main differences between us and Syria? Is it Syria's timing in raising the legitimacy of Egypt's membership in the ICO? Given that the general atmosphere has been encouraging lately, if not calm, what are the root causes of our disagreements?

[Abd al-Majid] We have no quarrel with the Syrian people. Differences between Egypt and Syria are political. Let's take the Palestinian question and Syria's relations with the PLO. The Syrians have their own thinking on the Palestinian question. They are in disagreement with the Palestinians themselves and not with us. Let them resolve their differences on that score with the Palestinians. Does it make sense for an Arab country to encourage the establishment of Palestinian organizations as substitutes for the PLO? This is a major point of contention between us and the Syrians. We are also in disagreement over Camp David. While we accept this, we think we should be left alone to handle Camp David our way. Then there is the Gulf war on which we have different perspectives. We would very much like this war to end. The fighting has been escalating, inflicting heavier casualties and damages. How can Syria back Iran, as it has been doing, when Iranian forces have penetrated Iraqi territory? Where is the joint Arab defense pact? These are examples of our fundamental differences. The Syrian proposal that an item disputing the legitimacy of Egypt's membership in the ICO be listed on the summit agenda is another piece of evidence.

[Abu Sa'dah] Where you surprised because of the timing of the Syrian suggestion, or because the atmosphere was calmer and more encouraging than before?

[Abd al-Majid] The surprise was not due to the item itself, as we will respond to that. We are certain the proposal will be turned down. What really surprised us was the Syrian leadership asked this item be listed on the agenda. They had tried this in Sanaa and failed. Now they are trying again.

[Abu Sa'dah] If there are so many issues on which there are differences, what are the issue which Egypt wanted the participants in the conference to discuss while leaving the disputed issues to be discussed bilaterally?

[Abd al-Majid] We can discuss how to unify our stand on the Palestinian question, the issue of the international conference, and the unifying of Arab ranks, while accepting Arab differences do exist.

[Abu Sa'dah] However, there was a possibility an Egyptian-Syrian summit meeting between President Mubarak and Hafiz al-Asad would be held at the Islamic summit in Kuwait?

[Abd al-Majid] The possibility still exists. Such matters are left to circumstances. The summit is an ideal venue for meeting among Muslim leaders. As attempts to convene an Arab summit have failed thus far, perhaps the Islamic summit will bring about an Arab summit, and will try to find solutions for the Arab situation, not just the Muslim situation. That is Egypt's view and concept of the summit.

[Abu Sa'dah] What possible and successful results does Egypt expect from the Islamic summit in Kuwait?

[Abd al-Majid] The greatest possibilities for successful meetings are those held at the summit level, and when the views of Muslim leaders on major issues preoccupying the Muslim world are brought closer.

[Abu Sa'dah] Was a meeting actually held between Usamah al-Baz [adviser to the Egyptian president for political affairs] and Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' a short while ago?

[Abd al-Majid] No such meeting took place.

[Abu Sa'dah] What about the attack initiated by the national press against Syria? Don't you believe such an attack is more harmful than useful in the present circumstances?

[Abd al-Majid] The fact is neither the attacks by the Syrian side nor by the Egyptian side are useful. I hope we will all be objective and not indulge in vituperations. Of course, the Egyptian press is excused because it was the Syrian side that began the attack, and he who begins first is in the wrong.

[Abu Sa'dah] The latest escalation of the war by Iran began to assume a very serious form in recent weeks. What are the motives for such an escalation?

[Abd al-Majid] A quick analytical glance shows the timing of the escalation coincides with the approach of the Islamic summit. It is known Iran did not want the summit to convene, and sought to influence several states so the conference would not be held or would be postponed or held in another country. Iran links diplomatic moves with its military moves in the hope of achieving a military victory during the Islamic summit in Kuwait, to influence it. These are the Iranian motives. However, it is clear Iraq is standing fast. Such matters prompt us as a Muslim country to seek to bring the two Muslim states together and to make them negotiate instead of fight.

[Abu Sa'dah] However, the military view is the Iranian escalation at this time of the year is connected with the rain and the soft ground, which provide an opportunity, since Iraq is unable to use its armor in battle until June?

[Abd al-Majid] I have no knowledge of such military thinking. However, a political analyst will see the Iranian timing coincides with the approach of the Islamic summit, and the Iranians do not want the summit to be held. Here lies the link.

[Abu Sa'dah] In view of Iran's persistence and rejection of all initiatives to hold a dialogue and begin negotiations with Iraq and its call — which has become its major demand — for Saddam Husayn to step down from the leadership of Iraq, do you believe a meeting of the foreign ministers of the Security Council can be an encouraging sign, and that results can be expected from such a meeting?

[Abd al-Majid] We support such a measure. We believe any diplomatic move by the Security Council, at the foreign ministers level, is useful and should be encouraged. The UN secretary general acts in accordance with the UN Charter and is aware of the seriousness of the situation and its continuation. Undoubtedly, Egypt completely supports such moves.

[Abu Sa'dah] Some believe the big powers and some forces in the region have an interest in prolonging the state of "no victor, no vanquished" between the two warring parties. To what extent do you agree with this?

[Abd al-Majid] The big powers have their calculations. They have many calculations which are not confined to the local aspect, but are connected to comprehensive stands containing elements that have nothing to do with the problem itself. Big powers have calculations that must be taken into consideration. However, sometimes the decisive criterion is the concerned countries themselves or the countries in the region themselves. These countries must move. If the moves of these countries are in line with those of the big powers, then these big powers will benefit. What will prevent them from not benefiting? Let us imagine Iraq and Iran express a readiness to initiate dialogue, no matter how the big powers try to prolong the war. There is no doubt the Iraqi and Iranian decision will have the upper hand. Here, we have identical interests with one of the parties or with a group of countries, and this makes the situation more difficult. The state of affairs has developed from a bilateral dispute to a broader conflict in view of foreign interferences and the big powers' interests in this conflict.

[Abu Sa'dah] Your excellency, are you not of the opinion that the timing of the recent U.S. stand on the arms deal to Iran has come when the United States felt the military balance has tipped in Iraq's favor?

[Abd al-Majid] Much has been said about the arms deal to Iran. I believe the campaign within the United States has started to disclose many things and will disclose much more. We have stated our opinion on the U.S. stand on the weapons supply to Iran and Israel's role in it. Our stand is known. We had hoped this would not take place and the United States would maintain a balance between the two parties. However, some factors arose as a result of the stands of some U.S. officials — but not all of them — that made the state of affairs as complicated as it is now.

[Abu Sa'dah] If this is the case with some U.S. officials, what about the role of Israel, which was the instigator?

[Abd al-Majid] The Israeli stand is completely unacceptable. I believe Israel forced itself in the issue or counseled a move be made to strengthen Iran against Iraq. Israel should not have assumed such a role.

[Abu Sa'dah] does this not confirm Israel's course of action in the region is dangerous?

[Abd al-Majid] There is no doubt this matter has drawn reactions within Israel itself as had taken place in the United States. But the final outcome depends on the Arab and Islamic countries and the need for them to unite. This is what I believe. Israel imagines, and here lies the danger, it is consolidating the Iranian stand against Iran. From our viewpoint, these calculations are not correct.

[Abu Sa'dah] The objectives of Murphy's visit to the region was to try to justify or explain the U.S. stand and its motives toward the Iranian arms deal, particularly that the Egyptian stand was explicit from the moment this deal was disclosed. What did Murphy say or offer?

[Abd al-Majid] Murphy came, explained the background of this issue, and said it will not be repeated. This shows how much the U.S. Administration is interested in clarifying its stand to Egypt.

[Abu Sa'dah] Then it was no more than a justification of the U.S. stand?

[Abd al-Majid] He did not justify. He explained and stressed this matter will not recur. This was the basis and objective of Murphy's visit.

[Abu Sa'dah] One notices Arab moves toward Egypt are directly linked to the magnitude of the Iranian threat to the region, and vice versa: Whenever the Iraqi stand becomes stronger, the tune of the return to Egypt becomes more feeble?

[Abd al-Majid] I do not believe such moves are linked in the way you mention. First, there is Egypt's Arab affiliation. The Arab rapprochement with Egypt has passed through several stages. I have noticed there is appreciation and understanding of Egyptian policy — particularly after President Mubarak assumed office — and of President Mubarak's methods and attitudes that have had a great effect on changing the Arab attitude toward Egypt. Of course, there were differences at the time of President al-Sadat. Egypt views all threats to the Arab states close to it very seriously. Egyptian-Arab — or Arab-Egyptian — rapprochement stems from the conviction of a shared destiny. The reason is not that a war between Iraq and Iran prompts such a rapprochement. Relations between Egypt and the Arabs are stronger than any war, differences, or threats because they are part of Egypt's organic ties with the Arab nation. The political developments that occurred in Egypt have helped to bring about greater understanding. There are no longer emotional or nervous reactions or shocks in Egyptian policy. There is wisdom, objectivity, seriousness, and greater relaxation. Of course, there are some differences with some — indeed, a few — Arab states. We hope some of these states will realize this, despite the differences between us, which we acknowledge.

[Abu Sa'dah] A big Kuwaiti investment delegation recently visited Egypt. A Saudi military delegation also visited Cairo. A few days ago [Defense Minister] Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah spoke about Egypt's role in safeguarding the Gulf's security. What is the significance of all such moves for Egypt's open-door policy in the next stage?

[Abd al-Majid] The significance is clear to anyone who sees and analyzes. I am certain the Arab side and the Egyptian side are satisfied with such stands. There is a desire for more of such moves. A Saudi investment delegation arrived a few months ago, in addition to the Kuwaiti delegation recently. Egyptian delegations visited many Arab countries. There is also Egypt's return to the Arab organizations in which its membership was suspended. The Arab brothers are pouring into Egypt, and we can see this in Cairo. We feel this pleases the Egyptians and also pleases the Arabs. That is the truth about Arab-Egyptian relations and their strength.

[Abu Sa'dah] Some people believe Egyptian military support is now required in return for economic support by the Gulf states. How true is this, and how serious?

[Abd al-Majid] I do not know the reason for such views. The fact is the issue is not dealt with in military terms. Relations among countries of the Arab world are much stronger. There is a broader perspective, and there are Arab and Egyptian feelings of mutual confidence. We may pass through difficult periods, but the ties between Egypt and the Arab nation continue to exist, for they are part of history.

[Abu Sa'dah] The aims of Richard Murphy's visit included the activation of the peace process. Did he put forward a new plan or ideas during his latest visit to Egypt?

[Abd al-Majid] We talked in detail about the international conference. In our view, the United States does not reject an international conference but has reservations regarding it.

[Abu Sa'dah] What are the U.S. reservations?

[Abd al-Majid] Basically the reservations are the United States prefers direct negotiations to an international conference. That is because they fear the international conference will become a field for speeches and vituperations with no progress in resolving the issues to be discussed. Of course, direct negotiations are the practical way. However, it is difficult for direct negotiations to take place without an international conference, but it is very easy for direct negotiations to take place within the framework of an international conference. That is Egypt's view, and we have explained this to the U.S. side. The U.S. side is now studying this, and we hope it will provide us with its response.

[Abu Sa'dah] Therefore, Murphy did not bring anything new, because the last thing put forward by the U.S. side was the Reagan plan?

[Abd al-Majid] We discussed the formula for an international conference and some details — and I am not free to discuss them now. As I have said, there are U.S. reservations. Perhaps we will have more meetings with the U.S. side.

[Abu Sa'dah] Was there no progress on any of the issues discussed since Murphy's last visit?

[Abd al-Majid] I can say the U.S. Administration is discussing and studying the matter. Perhaps now it is more preoccupied with the question of Iran. We hope it will have time for the Middle East issue, because it is no less serious than any other issue in any other part of the world.

Minister on Iranian Stand on Cities Shelling
JN271331 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1300 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Jan (INA) — Iraqi Culture and Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim has said Iraq will only reconsider its stand [on ceasing attacks on Iran's residential areas] if an agreement guaranteed by an international body is reached. In a statement to INA in response to statements made today by a spokesman for the Iranian War Information Headquarters, the culture and information minister affirmed that one of Iraq's most important conditions is that Iran should not embark on aggression against Iraqi territory and sovereignty and should never again attack Iraqi cities.

Jasim added that Iraqi Air Force and missile power will continue to strike at Iran's rulers until they resort to the correct path and submit to truth and justice according to the conditions which we mentioned.

Today, a spokesman for the Iranian information headquarters announced that in light of Iraq's cessation of its attacks on Iran's residential areas during the past 24 hours Iran will, in return, stop its shelling of the cities. The Iranian spokesman added that Iran will resume its shelling of the cities should Iraq resume its shelling of the Iranian cities.

Further Reports, Communiques on Fighting

500 Meters Secured in Basra
JN271356 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1325 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Jan (INA) — Last night, the Iraqi Armed Forces aborted an attempt by an Iranian force estimated at one division and two brigades to attack the Iraqi forces' defensive line in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah. In a statement to INA a short while ago, an Iraqi military spokesman said that the Iraqi forces confronted the Iranian forces and forced them to retreat without taking one inch of land. The spokesman said that the Iranian forces lost 5,000 dead or wounded and a great number was captured. The spokesman said that more than 1,500 corpses left by the Iranians are still in no-man's-land.

In his statement, the Iraqi spokesman affirmed that the Iraqi Armed Forces completely destroyed an Iranian brigade in another area in the same sector. He added that the Iraqi forces mopped up more than 500 meters of land today, noting that Iranian forces left their positions and retreated in disarray after their commanders lost control of their units.

Concluding his statement, the Iraqi military spokesman affirmed that not only the Iranian forces which took part in the abortive offensive attempt were destroyed but also the forces in the rear which were sent to reinforce the attacking units. He said the Iranian forces were destroyed by artillery fire before reaching their targets.

Communique on 26-27 Jan Battles
JN271904 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1700 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Communique No 2,544 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 27 January 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Iraq's victorious troops, supported by God's victory, protecting Iraq's honorable territory, defending great ideals, and guarding freedom and sovereignty have continued their heroic struggle with the brave men who are the pride of the entire world and the Arab nation. Each brave man deserves his place in history. Through its capable and brave activities, the Iraqi Army has become a source of brave men who are the pride of all Iraqis.

The following is a roundup of activities for last night and today:

1. At 2110 [1810 GMT] yesterday, the desperate enemy sent out a force estimated at one division from the charlatan's Guards. The brave men of the Al-Miqdad Forces and the forces affiliated with it confronted the Iranian force, killing a great number of the enemy and forcing them to retreat, leaving their dead behind.

The enemy repeated the attempt at 2300 on the same night. Our forces immediately smashed what was left of the division — Regiments 409, 415, and 422 from Division 41, one regiment from Division 33, one regiment from the 8th Division, and one brigade from Division 14. The battle ended in favor of our victorious forces at 1130 [0830 GMT] this morning. The Khomeyniite forces were not able to advance one inch. The Iranian forces were completely defeated, leaving corpses on the battlefield. The situation was completely settled in favor of our victorious forces. This is in addition to the great losses sustained by the enemy waves near the border. Many of the enemy groups were completely harvested by artillery fire and many enemy groups were not able to approach the battlefield and were destroyed on roads and in concentration areas.

Blessed be the brave men — commanders, officers, and men. The battles of the great harvest will continue until we uproot what is left of these rotten devilish beings and save countries and peoples from their evil. God is our supporter in this honorable mission.

2. Our complete implementation of our people's will and the legitimate exercise of our right to avert the danger to our homeland, to destroy and uproot the aggression, and to confront the trend calling for the continuation of the war — the trend on which the Iranian clique insists — as well as our responsibility to our civilians, to their souls, to their possessions, and to their security requires that we continue to punish the aggressors and to destroy their dens of injustice and unjust people over their heads with a devastating response to the course of aggression. In light of all this, our brave Air Force carried out the following missions:

A. At 1500 [1200 GMT] today, our aircraft carried out a devastating raid on the city of Ilam.

B. At the same time, other planes raided the city of Shahabad (Eslamabad).

C. At 1515 today, our planes launched a violent raid on the city of Dehloran.

D. At 1610 today, our aircraft launched a devastating raid on the city of Pol-e Dokhtar.

E. At 1630 today, other planes launched a violent raid on the city of Khomeyn.

F. At 1645 today, our planes raided the city of Qom.

G. At the same time a number of our planes carried out a devastating raid on the city of Esfahan.

After pounding their targets, our brave hawks returned with their planes safely to the homeland in God's care and protection.

3. Our heroic Air Force aircraft carried out 176 combat missions during which they destroyed many enemy concentrations, positions, artillery emplacements, and other weapons, extending the best support to our ground units as they were crushing the enemy remnants. After carrying out these missions, our aircraft returned safely to their bases, praise be to God.

4. The daring Army helicopter gunships continued their harvest of the scoundrel Khomeyniites' heads through their brave knights, extending the best support to our ground forces and inflicting on the aggressors heavy losses in scoundrels, equipment, positions, and weapons in 156 combat sorties. Our knights then returned with their planes safely and successfully to their bases, praise be to God.

5. Our brave units in the heroic VII Army Corps sector have continued their heroic combat operations to inflict heavy losses on the evil Khomeyniites. These units also extended splendid fire support to our units in the III Army Corps while achieving victories over our renegade enemy. They also achieved the following:

The killing of 195 enemy personnel and the destruction of 16 mortars, 106-mm gun, 4 tubular launchers, 11 vehicles loaded with personnel, 19 infantry positions with their personnel, 14 ammunition dumps, a four-barreled machine gun and the killing of its entire crew, and 2 shovels [preceding word in English].

6. The criminal enemy this morning shelled residential areas in the city of Basra and the Halabjah area with long-range artillery. The enemy shelling resulted in the martyrdom of one woman and one child and the wounding of eight civilians, including three children. Mercy and forgiveness to our martyrs and a speedy recovery for our wounded, God willing.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 27 January 1987

Downing of 3 Planes Denied

JN271816 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Jan (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has denied Iranian claims that three Iraqi planes were downed

today. In a statement to INA, the spokesman said that all the planes that carried out missions returned safely to their bases.

The Iraqi spokesman affirmed that the Iranians have fabricated such lies to hide their heavy human losses last night and today in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah.

Communique No 2,545

JN281205 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1130 GMT 28 Jan 87

[Communique No 2,545 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 28 January 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. We have frankly told the tyrant Iranian rules and warned the lowly ones against continuing the war and aggression against our country and territory and against shelling our cities. In order to prevent this tyrant clique from continuing its unjust course and to force it to respond to peace calls, we will not lift the hammers from heads that are full of nothing but rancor and evil. We will continue to strike its dens in order to make it know its size and that it is too small to undermine lofty Iraq. The planes of our gigantic Air Force carried out the following missions:

1. At 1130 [0830 GMT] today, numbers of our planes carried out a daring and destructive raid on the city on Zanjan.

2. At the same time, other numbers of our planes raided the city of Hamadan.

3. At the same time, our planes raided the city of Malayer.

4. At 1130 [0830 GMT] today, too, our planes carried out a violent raid on the city of Pol-e Dokhtar.

5. At the same time, our planes carried out a destructive raid on the city of Khorramabad.

6. At the same time, other planes carried out a destructive raid on the city of Nahavand.

7. At 1145 [0845 GMT] today, the valiant hawks carried out a violent raid on the city of Khomeyn, the birthplace of their senile old man charlatan Khomeyni.

8. Other numbers of our planes carried out a destructive raid on the city of Tabriz at 2315 [2015 GMT] last night.

9. At 1145 [0845 GMT] today, our planes dealt an accurate and effective strike at a large maritime target near the Iranian coast.

10. At 1112 [0812 GMT] today, numbers of our planes destroyed the Marivan camp.

11. Earlier, our planes dealt a destructive blow to a Hawk missile battery, which its Zionist allies supplied it with, west of the Karun River.

After our valiant hawks bravely and accurately carried out these missions, they returned with their planes safely to the homeland thanking God for its righteous victory and proud of their glorious deeds. Blessed be the men of our heroic Air Force, commanders, hawks, officers, and other ranks. Praise be to God, the helper of the faithful.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 28 January 1987

Australian Prime Minister Arrives for Talks

Terms Relations 'Good'

JN232056 Amman Television Service in English
2000 GMT 23 Jan 87

[Text] Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke and Mrs Hawke arrived in Amman this evening on a 3-day official visit to Jordan. During the visit, the Australian prime minister will meet with his majesty the king. He will also hold talks with Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and senior officials on international issues of mutual interest and the situation in the Middle East, as well as bilateral relations. Mr Hawke was received at Amman airport by the prime minister and senior officials. A high-ranking Australian delegation is accompanying Mr Hawke. In a statement to reporters upon arrival, the Australian prime minister said that his country has no objection to the convening of an international peace conference on the Middle East. He added he will discuss with Jordanian officials means of promoting ties and cooperation between Jordan and Australia.

[Begin recording][Unidentified reporter] Excuse me sir, what is the nature of your visit to Jordan and what issues will be discussed during the official talks in Amman?

[Hawke] Well, I have been fortunate. During many years back we have had good relations with Jordan. I have met the crown prince here on two occasions. His majesty was not in the country at that stage but that goes back nearly 10 years, that is 1978. So it is a question of renewing friendships and I want really two things. Firstly to strengthen the relations that exist between Australia and Jordan. We do not have substantial economic relationships but I think they could be increased. And secondly, of course, I want to take this opportunity of listening and be told by my friends here in Jordan of perceptions, of developments in this important region. So those are the two basic reasons I have for being here.

[Reporter] Excuse me sir, how could Australia play a role in achieving peace in the Middle East in your opinion?

[Hawke] Well, we would in no way attempt to exaggerate Australia's importance. We are a small country. I think, however, we have the advantage of being respected by the countries directly involved here in the region. We do not in any sense pretend to come as a mediator or a country which has the solutions because that would be silly. I simply say that if the countries in the region believe that in any way Australia can be of some assistance we stand ready to do that. But that is the way in which we come, not with any grain of pretensions at all.

[Reporter] Sir, how about you going to have to call for holding an international peace conference? What is your opinion on that point sir?

[Hawke] Yes, I believe there can be a place for such a conference. We raise no objection to that concept. It will be quite clear that a great deal of work would have to go into the preparation for such a conference. But it seems to me that if the principal parties can see a useful role for such a conference then there should be no objection to it.

[Reporter] Sir, how do you describe the Australian-Jordanian relations so far, and what are the best means to enhance the economic and trade relations between the two countries?

[Hawke] Well, let me first of all say that I think that the relations are soundly based in that I think there is a very firm friendship between my country and Jordan. We have good relations. Now the level of trade is not high in the last financial year. In Australian dollars, it was just under 32 million dollars of exports by Australia to Jordan and something like 9 million odd, under 10 million from Jordan to Australia. But there are areas in which I think we can expand that relationship; but it is only appropriate and courteous that I should talk about those things with his excellency the prime minister and other officials rather than doing that in advance on the media.

[Reporter] Thank you, sir, very much. [end recording]

Talks With Al-Rifa'i

JN241248 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 24 Jan 87

[Text] Amman — The Jordanian side under Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and the Australian side under Prime Minister Robert Hawke began official talks at the Prime Ministry at noon today. Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i explained the latest developments in the Middle East and Jordan's stand on the attainment of a peaceful and comprehensive settlement of the crisis within the framework of an international conference to be attended by all parties concerned and by the five permanent UN Security Council members. The prime minister also spoke about the Iraq-Iran war, stressing the need to end it and to seek its peaceful solution. He also praised Iraq's stand calling for an end to the conflict in a way that will safeguard the two countries' rights. He reaffirmed Jordan's stand on the Lebanese crisis based on Lebanon's unity and the sovereignty of the Lebanese state over all its territory.

Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i explained the objectives of the Jordanian development plan and development program for the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, as well as Jordan's desire to enhance bilateral relations with Australia in the economic and trade fields and to increase trade between the two countries.

The Australian prime minister expressed his country's appreciation for Jordan's efforts to attain a peaceful and comprehensive solution to the conflict in the Middle East. He also stressed his country's strong support for the Jordanian development plan and for the development program in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. The Australian prime minister noted the identity of views between Jordan and Australia on developments in the region to secure peace and stability in this vital region of the world.

The deputy prime minister, ministers, ranking officials, and experts attended the talks on the Jordanian side. The talks were attended on the Australian side by members of the delegation accompanying the Australian prime minister and by the Australian ambassador in Amman.

Meets With King Husayn

JN241731 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 24 Jan 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received Australian Prime Minister Robert Hawke at Al-Nadwah Palace this afternoon. His Majesty King Husayn reviewed developments in the Middle East situation and efforts aimed at establishing a just, permanent peace in the region. He also reviewed Jordan's stand calling for the convening of an international peace conference, to be attended by all the parties to the conflict and by the permanent members of the Security Council, aimed at implementing Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, as well as tackling all aspects of the Palestine question, since this conference is the means to initiate real treatment of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Hawke and his wife had lunch with their Majesties King Husayn and Queen Nur. The lunch was also attended by the prime minister, the Royal Hashemite Court chief, the court minister, the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, the acting foreign minister, their wives, and members of the delegation accompanying the Australian prime minister.

Speaks to Press

JN242044 Amman Television Service in English
2000 GMT 24 Jan 87

[Text] Mr Hawke said at a news conference that Australia saw a merit in holding an international conference on Middle East peace. He also said that his government would consider extending aid to the development plan for the occupied Arab territories.

[Begin recording][Hawke] I was given a detailed, intelligent, and, if I may say so, a very interesting account of Jordan's perceptions of the condition of the peace processes. Both his majesty and the prime minister affirmed the determination of Jordan to try and inject momentum into the peace process because they expressed, and in my judgment, properly expressed the apprehension that if these peace processes stall and despair takes the place of hope then the slide into conflict becomes inevitable. In particular, both his majesty and the prime minister expressed their support for an international conference as an integral part of the process, and I told them that Australia sees merit in the concept of an international conference which made clear to me that the aim of Jordan remains a comprehensive and just settlement based upon Resolutions 242 and 338. I took the opportunity of telling both his majesty and the prime minister of Australia's support for a just, comprehensive, and lasting settlement, and for Resolutions 242 and 338 as an integrally important part of that process.

I had outlined to me Jordan's West Bank economic development plan, and Australia's moral and political support, and, if possible material support was sought. I expressed both to his majesty and the prime minister our support for that plan as a humanitarian scheme calculated to improve the livelihood and well being of the people of the West Bank. And I undertook on my return to Australia to consider with my ministers the possibility of some form of Australian material support for that plan. [end recording]

Speaks on Ties With Israel

BK261045 Melbourne Overseas Service in English
0830 GMT 26 Jan 87

[Text] The Australian prime minister, Mr Hawke, says he does not expect the success of his visit to Jordan to affect relations with Israel during his forthcoming trip to Jerusalem. Mr Hawke told reporters that he had been impressed by the integrity and commitment to peace shown by Jordan's leaders but stressed that he would not be acting as a messenger for Jordan when he visited Israel later this week.

Speaking at a news conference in the capital, Amman, Mr Hawke said Australia saw merit in Jordan's push for an international conference on the Middle East. This is despite Israel's opposition to Soviet participation in such a forum and Hawke's well-known support for the Israeli cause.

The Australian leader, whose current trip will also take him to Cyprus and Egypt, refused to give details of what he might discuss with the Israeli prime minister, Mr Shamir. Mr Hawke said it would not be useful for him to speak about his ideas prior to meeting Israel's leaders.

Concludes Visit, Departs

JN261919 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 26 Jan 87

[Text] Amman — Australian Prime Minister Robert Hawke, his wife, and the accompanying delegation left Amman this morning at the end of a 3-day official visit to Jordan. During the visit, Hawke met with His Majesty King Husayn and held talks with Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and ranking officials on the development of the situation in the Middle East and on issues of bilateral cooperation.

The Australian prime minister was accorded an official send-off at Amman airport. Leading those who saw him off was Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i. The deputy prime minister, ministers, state and military officials, the heads of diplomatic missions, the Jordanian ambassador to Australia, and the Australian ambassador in Amman were also present to bid him farewell. The Jordanian and Australian national anthems were played and Hawke and Al-Rifa'i reviewed the honor guard.

In a predeparture statement to a PETRA correspondent, Hawke thanked His Majesty King Husayn, Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, and the Jordanian Government and people for the warm hospitality he was accorded during his visit to Jordan. Hawke said that clarity, amity, frankness, and the spirit of constructive cooperation prevailed over the official talks he held with Jordanian officials on all matters pertaining to issues in the region and bilateral relations. He added the two sides expressed the desire to promote these relations in all available fields.

Hawke said during his meetings with His Majesty King Husayn and Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i he had the opportunity to become acquainted with important issues in the Middle East such as the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Iraq-Iran war. He said he is convinced of the need to persistently seek a just, lasting, and

comprehensive solution to the conflict in the region. He said he formed a good impression about Jordan and its people who enjoy qualities of honesty, genuineness, and amity.

Concluding his statement, he said he extended an invitation to His Majesty King Husayn to visit Australia and that his majesty accepted the invitation. The date of the visit will be set later.

WAKH: Al-Masri on ICO Summit, Murphy Visit, PLO
JN231523 Manama WAKH in English 1510 GMT 23 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 23 (GNA)— Jordan's Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri Friday said a draft resolution will be submitted to the Islamic summit on holding an international conference for solving the Palestinian problem.

In an interview with the Kuwaiti daily *Al-Anba'* published here today, the Jordanian official said the draft will be agreed on, because there are no differences in view among members of the conference about this issue.

The paper quoted the Jordanian minister as denying unannounced results of the latest talk held between Jordanian officials and U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Middle East Affairs Richard Murphy.

The minister also denied a conflict between the Jordanian Government and the Palestine Liberation Organisation on the Palestinian issue.

Once the PLO meets certain requirements to attend the international conference, coordination will be considered effective between Amman and the Organisation, the minister said.

The minister said Jordan has more than once announced putting its capabilities under Iraq's disposal in the war against Iran, adding that Iraq's situation on the warfront is good and holding tight and that Baghdad did not request anything yet.

TV Notes Saudi Aid to Jordanian-Palestinian Fund
JN242006 Amman Television Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 24 Jan 87

[Text] Occupied Territories Affairs Minister Marwan Dudin has stated the fraternal Saudi Government has thankfully transferred \$9 million to the account of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian fund at the [Jordanian] Central Bank. The Jordanian side of the committee requested the convocation of a meeting to define ways to spend this sum to support the kinfolk's steadfastness in the occupied territories.

Al-Asad Cables King Husayn En Route To Kuwait
JN261932 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 26 Jan 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received the following cable from His Excellency Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad as he passed through Jordanian airspace en route to Kuwait: His Majesty Brother King Husayn ibn Talal, King of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. It is my pleasure to express to you, as we cross the airspace of fraternal Jordan, my best wishes for your health and happiness and continued prosperity for the fraternal Jordanian people.

Source Says No Intention To Detain Waite*NC280607 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0552 GMT 28 Jan 87*

[Text] The fate of Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite is still not known. The mystery surrounding his disappearance has increased. However, a source close to the Lebanese personality who plays the role of intermediary between Waite and those holding the hostages has stated the latter do not intend to detain Waite, according to today's edition of the newspaper *Al-Nahar*.

Waite Reportedly Still Negotiating*NC280926 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 0843 GMT 28 Jan 87*

[Text] Britain's Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe said he is very concerned with the safety of Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy, trying to negotiate the release of foreign hostages in Lebanon. Mr Waite has not been seen in public in West Beirut for a week. The *Kuwaiti News Agency* reported he is being held under house arrest by the people he was negotiating with, while a Lebanese newspaper reported Terry Waite had an argument with his bodyguards, who belong to the Druze Progressive Socialist Party.

In London, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, said yesterday that he had no proof that Mr Waite was being held against his will.

Informed security sources in West Beirut say that he is still there, negotiating for the release of American hostages Terry Anderson and Thomas Sutherland, and is still contacting his bodyguards through a go-between.

The British Ambassador in Lebanon, Mr John Gray, said he had no information to give about the whereabouts of Mr Waite, explaining that he was an envoy of the Archbishop of Canterbury and not of the British Government.

More Foreigners Reportedly Kidnapped in Beirut*NC280843 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 0833 GMT 28 Jan 87*

[Text] As we have just heard a few moments ago, there has been another kidnapping of foreigners in West Beirut. A report said gunmen in the sector of Saqiyat al-Jinzir kidnapped an Alfa Romeo car having a diplomatic plate number 41/15 and belonging to the Italian Embassy in Beirut. There is yet no report about the identity of the passengers of the car. The gunmen are said to have taken the car toward the airport bridge area from where they headed towards the southern suburb [of Beirut].

Car Seizure Confirmed*NC281033 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 28 Jan 87*

[Text] Responsible sources in the Italian Embassy have confirmed the report that one of the embassy's cars, bearing diplo-

matic registration number 141/15 [as heard], was seized in West Beirut. These same sources noted the car had been stolen 2 days ago. Security reports announced today that gunmen had seized the car in the Saqiyat al-Janzir area and then headed toward the southern suburb [of Beirut].

New Group Claims Abduction of Saudi National*NC272142 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2120 GMT 27 Jan 87*

[Text] A new organization calling itself the Partisans of Islamic Jihad [Ansar Munazzamat al-Jihad al-Islami] has claimed responsibility for kidnapping a Saudi citizen in West Beirut yesterday. An anonymous spokesman for the organization announced that this was done for reasons connected with the ICO conference in Kuwait.

REUTER has quoted Shi'ite sources as saying the kidnapped Saudi citizen's name is Khalid Dib.

8 French Teachers Evacuated From West Beirut*NC271530 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1505 GMT 27 Jan 87*

[Text] A French Foreign Ministry spokesman today announced that the French Government has taken measures to guarantee the safety of French teachers in West Beirut. The French Embassy in Lebanon will be responsible for implementing these measures, the spokesman added.

According to an official French source in Beirut, eight French teachers still living in West Beirut were evacuated to the city's eastern area at noon today. The source noted this measure has been taken in light of the series of kidnapping operations perpetrated against foreigners in West Beirut. The eight French teachers had been teaching in West Beirut schools.

Fadlallah Says Kidnapping Not Political Action*NC262015 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Jan 87*

[Text] In an interview with Lebanese television Channel 7, Scholar Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah asserted that true Muslims do not view kidnapping as possible political action. He emphasized that kidnappings are carried out by individuals or intelligence services.

Fadlallah added that if the Lebanese-Syrian summit is held, it will constitute the first step on a very long path toward achieving some kind of integration or agreement between Lebanon and Syria.

Commenting on what is being said about the return of Syrian military forces to Beirut, Fadlallah said: It is very difficult for any security force to maintain security in Lebanon. However, we take a positive view of each security unit acting in a wise and pragmatic manner to control the problem.

Regarding the view of committed Muslims on the camps war, scholar Fadlallah stated: We call for a deep involvement in the political arena, but we will not be a part of the exploitative political game.

Al-Jumayyil Pledges Support for Release of Germans
LD241804 Hamburg DPA in German 1730 GMT 24 Jan 87

[Text] Hamburg, 24 Jan 87 — Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil has promised the Federal Republic his support for the release of the two Germans kidnapped in West Beirut, but has pointed out at the same time that he has no powers of control in that area. In an interview with the paper *Die Welt* (Monday edition), Al-Jumayyil said, however, that everything humanly possible is being done, that all official and unofficial efforts have been undertaken to achieve the release of the two Germans and other kidnapped foreigners.

Al-Jumayyil criticized other foreign governments for negotiating with the "master blackmailers" in kidnappings involving compatriots. He called for "firmness to show once and for all that blackmail involving hostage taking does not pay." He also condemned the kidnapping of the two Germans because the Federal Republic is a friendly country seriously involved in efforts at finding reconciliation and a solution in Lebanon.

Excerpts of the interview were prereleased to DPA.

Karami Discusses Kidnappings, Syrian Forces
NC261439 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 26 Jan 87

[Statement by Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami, followed by remarks in response to questions by unidentified correspondents, after the weekly meeting of the West Beirut Coordination Committee on 26 January — recorded]

[Text] [Karami] The Coordination Committee has reviewed events in West Beirut, particularly recurring incidents of kidnappings, which reflect the atmosphere in the country and increase concern, especially in educational institutions. The latest incident took place at the BUC [Beirut University College], where three professors of a known citizenship were kidnapped. This prompted professors and students, who are worried about their future should these universities and educational institutions be closed, to stage strikes and demonstrations. This is indeed a matter for attention. Whenever something happens which one group or another sees as harmful to itself, security in Lebanon deteriorates, although what is being protested may have happened outside the country. I cannot logically accept this, because Leba-

non has suffered enough in the 12 years of this painful conflict. Therefore, we have decided to conduct a quick and stringent investigation to determine who is responsible for the kidnappings and the fate of those kidnapped. We want to secure their release as soon as possible so as to maintain the country's reputation and the comfort of its sons and safeguard the security and work of its various establishments.

This is what we discussed today, and I am awaiting the results of this investigation and the actions of concerned organizations to provide more assurances to these establishments and citizens.

[Correspondent] In your statement in Tripoli yesterday you expressed cautious optimism. Your Excellency said that your resignation would lead to a total collapse. Is there anything new on the Lebanese-Syrian summit, and is there a specific agenda?

[Karami] This is known to all of you, because the media is following the issue of the summit and providing details of what is happening in that regard. We are expecting this meeting after the Islamic summit in Kuwait, and we hope it will open the door for a Lebanese accord and the restoration of legitimate authority so that this country can enjoy security and stability and so that life can return to normal. This would contribute to the easing of economic, security, and living conditions. We continue to pray and hope that this meeting will take place as soon as possible.

[Correspondent] Last week you spoke about security measures to control the situation in West Beirut. Has the implementation of these measures started, and if not, when will it begin?

[Karami] The fact is that the regular forces assigned to this task are doing all they can. We are seeking to implement all the previously adopted measures with the available resources.

[Correspondent] Where do the efforts to obtain Syrian forces' support for the regular forces in Beirut stand?

[Karami] We have previously declared our position in this regard. We expressed our wish that the number of Syrian observers would be increased to support the regular and legitimate forces in their efforts to provide more security for the citizens of West Beirut.

[Correspondent] Could you tell us when more Syrian forces will arrive in Beirut?

[Karami] I cannot say what has happened and is happening in this regard, because such matters are arranged by those concerned through direct exchanges.

Mubarak-Al-Asad Handshake Has 'No Significance'
JN280706 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
 0515 GMT 28 Jan 87

[Text] Kuwait — A press spokesman for the Syrian Arab delegation to the Fifth ICO Summit being held in Kuwait said that, in the presence of the heads of delegations participating in the summit, in the reception hall before entering the meeting hall, in accordance with customary conference protocol, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak approached President Hafiz al-Asad, greeted him, and shook his hand. This handshake has no political significance.

'Text' of Al-Asad's AL-QABAS Interview
JN240850 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
 0520 GMT 24 Jan 87

["Text" of interview with President Hafiz al-Asad by Muhammad Jasimm al-Saqr, editor in chief of the Kuwaiti paper *Al-Qabas*, and Muhammad Abu Salah, its international affairs editor; date and place not given — read by announcer]

[Text] Question: Mr President, Syria's philosophy on the conflict with Israel is based on the attainment of strategic parity as a prelude to either war or peace. That is why Syria's efforts now focus on modernizing the Armed Forces in terms of human resources and technology. We believe you share with us the opinion that sincere and real Arab solidarity is a necessary condition for the attainment of this parity. What is Syria doing to achieve this solidarity, which suffers a great and deep impairment?

Al-Asad: Most of us say the conflict between us and Zionism is a fateful conflict. In such a conflict, it is only natural that we raise the slogan of strategic parity between us and the enemy. As I have reiterated on more than one occasion, strategic parity does not mean having the same number of tanks, guns, or other types of weapons. Strategic parity means a comprehensive balance in all areas. We in Syria proceed from this understanding and are working on this basis. We have achieved acceptable strides in this field. We say we have not reached our objective. Undoubtedly, the enemy knows this. We the Arabs must also know this. One of the most important things for the attainment of this objective is the Arab solidarity to which you referred in your question. Since 1970, Arab solidarity has been a basic pillar of our Arab policy. We in Syria have issued many documents through the pertinent institutions reaffirming the need for Syria to always exert efforts to achieve Arab unity, in every sense of the word and as much as possible, and to achieve solidarity when unity cannot be achieved. In my view, we have played an important role in that regard. We went through a number of years in which we achieved a certain degree of Arab solidarity. We always want to be in a better position, and that is why I said we went through a number of years. There is no doubt that the Camp David accords were the main ax that began to demolish that solidarity. The effects of these accords did not emerge immediately. However, those who planned the Camp David accords did not plan to implement a policy naked without teeth, arms, claws, weapons of expansion and hegemony, and without the elimination of obstacles that stand in its way. And that is what happened.

The ordinary Arab citizen may not find it easy to see how Camp David succeeded in achieving this in Egypt, an Arab country. There are also events in various places or in the Arab homeland. How is this related to that? I believe we do not need to prove how Camp David, through those who planned and implemented it, succeeded in having this great impact. We directly jump to the conclusion that Camp David is the cause, that it is the real background for the biggest and most dangerous problems we are experiencing in the Arab homeland. The Camp David tools, planners, and those who implement it constantly pursue us. Even this deteriorating Arab state of affairs is not their ultimate objective. They want to make the state of affairs reach rock bottom so they can rebuild the structure they want through this state of fragmentation, a structure that serves the broad trends of Camp David. These broad trends in reality are to deprive the Arabs of any power, and of any identity which enjoys power, and to deprive them of any ability to stand fast. Thus, Israel will establish its Torah state and its Torah hegemony. We in Syria clearly see this and we struggle as much as possible to prevent the Camp David trend from achieving its objectives. For us, it is a battle in which we struggle, and we will continue to struggle to achieve success in this battle. We do not claim it is an easy battle because the forces that support it are big and the weak points from which we Arabs are suffering also constitute support forces for Camp David. Our weak points and sometimes our ignorance are positive factors for others. This ignorance primarily benefits our enemies. All these forces are overwhelming. However, we will not capitulate to Zionist hegemony. We will not capitulate to U.S. threats or to U.S. might embodied by a vast media apparatus in the world, fleets, aircraft, the economy, money, and the necessary means to exert pressure, frighten, and terrorize. This is particularly by those who falsely uphold the banner of combating terrorism while, in reality, they are the most odious example in all history of people who plan, direct, and implement terrorism in the Arab arena.

Despite these difficulties, we have confidence in our nation, in our masses, and in many of our masses' leaders. When I talk about leaders, I do not mean those who rule. In every nation, there are many leaders on the streets, in schools, in the state, in the government, and in economic institutions as well. Those are the leading elements. We hope we will have a united view and that this view of big dangers will be entrenched to tackle and face these dangers. We have exploited every opportunity and made extra efforts to reinforce solidarity.

Question: Mr President, regarding the strategic balance, we note that well-known, well-informed, and reliable sources in the world affirm that Israel possesses the atomic bomb. Former U.S. President Richard Nixon noted that Golda Meir's government was about to use this weapon in the 1973 October war. How can Syria and the Arabs reach the required military strategic parity in light of Israel's possession of this weapon, which can only be confronted with the same type of weapon with the same destructive power?

Al-Asad: Highly-placed sources affirm that Israel has the ability to manufacture and possess a nuclear bomb. Of course, that prompts us to think in technical terms of confronting such a threat. We must succeed in solving the technical issues in this matter. But, whether or not we succeed in solving the technical

issues, our rights will not change. It is unreasonable to surrender to our enemies' schemes even if we do not possess the bomb they possess because capitulation means death. Our life means death if we live in humiliation and capitulation. This means we will die without dignity or honor. If we have to die, we have to die as martyrs. In my opinion, martyrdom means life, not death. Even if we agree with those who say martyrdom is death, let us die with pride.

The discussion is not confined to this. Our world is getting smaller with time, with the progress of science and technology, with people's ambition, and with the development of man's intellect. Consequently, interaction among the world's peoples is quickly developing. This deepens intellectual, economic, political, human, and, in general, living relations in the world. Therefore, each part of the world has strong concerns about the other parts. Generally, no part will be neutral.

This situation will restrict some methods, particularly the so-called taboos. Even if Israel possesses the atomic bomb we must not think that its use is easy. The United States, which possesses the atomic bomb, fought for many years in Vietnam, sustained heavy losses, and was defeated by the Vietnamese, who do not possess the atomic bomb. The United States, although it was defeated, was not able to use the atomic bomb against the Vietnamese.

There are many examples in the world I do not want to mention. All of NATO was present in Lebanon, and the Mediterranean coasts were full of fleets. Had you the opportunity to stand on top of these mountains overlooking the sea, you would have seen the fleets, consisting of aircraft carriers, cannons, and missiles, covering the sea. Undoubtedly, those fleets carried nuclear weapons. However, they were confronted by the people in this region, by the militias, and by military men. Israel was also on their side. All were defeated. They did not use the atomic bomb.

There are conditions for the use of the atomic bomb. In my opinion, these conditions are more difficult for Israel than for the United States. They are difficult in terms of technology and geographic location. We all saw the incident at the Chernobyl nuclear reactor in the USSR and its effect on the world's atmosphere. Even in the United States, the atmosphere in New York was affected by nuclear radiation. The Chernobyl incident resulted from a technical error. What will happen if an atomic bomb explodes in Israel? Israel, or the occupied territory, is only approximately 20,000-25,000 square km in size. This means that if Israel attacks Damascus with a nuclear bomb Israel itself will be affected and it will not be safe from the dangers. This alone would be the effect of the Israeli atomic bomb. The matter will not certainly be like this. In light of interaction among peoples, as I have said, there are peoples in the world that could not remain idle if the atomic bomb were used, not for our sake but for their sake and for the sake of human life. The atomic bomb, in the end, is a danger to all world peoples wherever it is used. Therefore, those peoples cannot remain idle.

In the end, I again say that rights will not change regardless of whether or not there is an atomic bomb. It would be better for a people to die proudly standing on its feet than to live kneeling down before its enemy.

Question: Mr President, you have declared that, just as Israel did not take the Golan Heights by law, we will not recover them by law. You have also said that there is no u-turn in confronting the enemy, that we can only confront this enemy by moving forward. The statement eloquently expresses Syria's position and your constant and avowed stand in confronting the enemy. How do you envisage this statement being translated into reality, given the current Arab state of affairs? With Egypt's exclusion as an active frontline state and Iraq's preoccupation with the war with Iran, only Syria remains a major force in confronting the enemy.

Al-Asad: We should try to cure the Arab malaise to the best of our ability. This is on our minds constantly, and we view it as a duty. This is not to say, however, that we are reduced to one of two choices — a perfect state of Arab affairs or Arab capitulation. If we resigned ourselves to one of these two options, we would paint too grim a picture of the future. This may drive some of us to desperation, something I have said in my speeches and statements. I have said that we should be prepared to move forward under the most unfavorable circumstances, which clearly means we must pursue an unrelenting and ceaseless struggle to realize optimum conditions, specifically a cohesive Arab front in which Arab states have shared goals and perspectives. We must be prepared for the worst, for the sake of objective thinking, and so we may have more self-confidence, as well as impress upon the enemy the extent of our resolve. There is nothing worse than for this state of affairs to persist or even get worse.

As I said earlier, the Arab nation's enemies want us to deteriorate further. I repeat that the worst thing that could happen is for Syria to confront the enemy on its own. Let's proceed from this premise. Some may argue that the combined force of the Arabs has failed to stand up to Israel. So how can Syria do that on its own? I reckon that, as a truly unified force, the Arabs have not failed in confronting Israel. The Arabs have never presented a truly unified front against the enemy.

There is ample evidence to prove my point. Before the October war the Arabs numbered 150 million but of these only a small number counted as fighters. By contrast, out of 3 million Israelis, more of them were on the battlefield. I believe this point has been lost on many people. Moreover, the Israelis have had better access to funds and arms, a fact that has also escaped the notice of many people. It is therefore untrue to say that as a combined force the Arabs have neither defeated nor stood up well to the enemy. This much the Americans and the Israelis know well, and so do all our enemies. Certain Arabs are also aware of this fact, I think, but the overwhelming majority do not know this, especially the broad masses. Therefore, I have always said, still say, and will continue to say, as every Arab must, that the Arabs must have a shared perspective and goal, and they must be unified in the full meaning of the word. We are not interested in traditional misleading forms of unified action, in which we would fool ourselves and our masses and therefore harm our interests and causes. Thus, we want a true polling of Arab efforts.

To go back to the worst hypothesis, and that is Syria standing on its own. Certainly, this would not be easy. Indeed, it is highly complex. Israel is not just 3 million people; Israel is the United States and world Zionism. Of course, world Zionism comes first,

then comes world Jewry and the United States. But other peoples that had to contend with superior forces came out on top thanks to their determination. Vietnam is a case in point. In our educational programs for the youth and the Armed Forces, we emphasize the point that a key factor in the battle is a faithful and determined human being, especially if he is acting in self-defense and is the wronged party rather than the aggressor. In terms of sheer numbers, we say there are 3 million Israelis against 12.5 million Syrians.

The area of occupied Palestine is 25,000 sq km, while the area of Syria is more than 185,000 sq km. Natural wealth in Palestine is much less than natural wealth in Syria. The wealth beneath the ground, mineral wealth, and other types of wealth are much less than in Syria.

Thus, the primary base in Syria on which Syria can rely and on which the general Arab effort against Israel can rely is better than the primary base on which Israel relies. Therefore, the question immediately arises: Why do we not begin and triumph at once?

These are the facts and the figures. However, our resources need to be exploited, organized, and developed so that they will be equal to the development attained by the enemy. Consequently, in such a case we should have the upper hand, particularly as we are in the right. The wealth in Syria is greater, but we in Syria have not exploited the wealth like Israel has exploited the land of Palestine. Of course, we must exploit the wealth, and as we plan for the future we must say why we did not exploit: What were our mistakes in the past? What were our shortcomings? This is not pause over the past, but so that we can cross into the future. We must exploit the wealth and we must exploit 12 million human beings. We have not exploited our human resources. Of course, there is a framework for every form of exploitation: The exploitation of human resources has its framework, and the exploitation of the land has a different framework. Man has not been developed and exploited in the way the Jew in the world, and consequently in Israel, has been developed and exploited. [Sentence as received] We must correct the mistakes or redress the missed opportunities of the past.

In short, one can say that the Jews had a state in Palestine 2,000 years ago, and for 2,000 years they strove and said: We must return to Palestine. They returned after 2,000 years to Palestine and established a state. If we should say that the average life of a generation is 50 years, then 2,000 years constitutes 40 generations. They continued to say: Palestine is our country and returned after 40 generations. For 2,000 years and more they have been saying that their state extends from the Nile to the Euphrates. Now they have returned and built a springboard in Palestine. I believe that the achievement of what remains of their objective is easier than what has already been achieved, unless we rise and be more alert than we have been until now.

Zionism is trying to bind world Jewry. We may find Jews who are anti-Zionist, but that does not at all affect the general policy of world Zionism and does not diminish the importance of the claim that Zionism represents world Jewry. It makes them believe in their cause and harness all the resources they possess, both moral and material, to serve Zionist ideas that stem from

their Torah, and I emphasize the words *their Torah* so that there will not be any confusion. Thus, a Jew comes from the United States, Poland, France, and from any part of the world mobilized and ready to fight and die in a land that he does not possess or know, or which his father, grandfather, or great-grandfather knows. He comes prepared, and he dies on our plains and in our mountains while, as we know, there are thousands and indeed millions of us who have not reached the level of being prepared to die to confront the invading Jew.

I wanted to say this to show how they developed and exploited their human resources. Without going into detail, we know how we developed and are developing our human resources, and how we have exploited them or are exploiting them now. Therefore, we must redress the mistakes of the past and realize our potential so that we can climb to the mountain, and when we and the Israelis are on the same level of the mountain or on the same level of the two parallel mountains, we will have the upper hand because we are in the right and we are greater in number. That is what we must do.

Question: Mr President, let us move to the Iraq-Iran war. Ever since the outbreak of the war Syria has been emphasizing two things: First, its complete confidence that the scope of the war will not expand to include the territory or interests of other states. Second, Syria does not at all approve of either army crossing the border and seizing territory, and Syria's stand will change if the Iranian forces cross the Arab border. The fact is that the scope of the war expanded more than 1 year ago when strikes on oil tankers began. It is also a fact that the Iranian forces are now on Arab territory and are openly declaring their intention to conquer more territory. The repeated attacks by these forces is a translation of such an intent. It is also a fact that Iraq has declared at every forum its desire to end the war and to embark on peace negotiations. What is the Syrian stand on the war now? Is there a possibility that Syria will adopt a different stand?

Al-Asad: The problem is that talk about this topic in particular is very delicate for us in Syria in view of the special situation between us and our brothers in Iraq, and also because anything we say is taken personally. Often talk and discussions appear to be vituperation. Regrettably, that is one of the ugliest mistakes that we Arabs often make. If you were to refer to all the statements I have made in which I mentioned the two points you mention, you will find that I emphasized the following — and it is somewhat different from what you said. I emphasized that first, we do not agree to any expansion of the war to include other countries — and we mean the Arab countries of the Gulf. Second, we will not accept the annexation of any Arab territory or any Iraqi territory. That is what you will find if you were to refer to my statements. We still stand by these two statements and are totally committed to them. Everyone knows our stand. In Iran they know our stand well. We have repeatedly emphasized to the Iranians what I am saying now and what I have said in the past. We asked for a declaration of stands on this matter, that is, with regard to the expansion and nonexpansion of the war. One is embarrassed to speak about oneself. Nevertheless, I am compelled to say — and I believe that our brothers in the Gulf, or some of them, know — that we have played a basic role in preventing the expansion of the war since its outbreak so that the war would not spill over into other countries. The expansion of the war would

have meant an Arab-Persian war. For us, the expansion of the war would mean that a country has committed aggression against the Arab states in the Gulf, even though the Iraq-Iran war was begun by an Arab side, and expansion of the war would not be the same. The war in this case would not be initiated by an Arab country and therefore our stand would not be the same, but different. [sentences as recieved]

The Iranians and our brothers in the Gulf know this stand. This is what has been said to all of them, and this is what I told them from the beginning of the war and what has been reaffirmed every year. We have reiterated this every few months and sometimes every month. We have sent many envoys. We have held many contacts on this subject, and we have achieved results. With respect to the second meaning, we even reached the point where the Iranian leaders issued communiques and made statements that they would not annex or covet Iraqi territory or any part of it. During the Iranian president's talks in Damascus in the only visit he has paid to Syria, we were eager to discuss this issue as clearly as possible based on our concern over our people in Iraq and over our Arab land, and on our eagerness to maintain friendship with Iran as a neighboring Muslim country that upholds the slogan of combating Zionism. We wish all Muslims would uphold this slogan and support us, particularly since everyone is concerned because the holy places that interest all the Muslims are in Palestine.

Therefore, out of concern for ourselves and friendship with Iran, we did our best to make this matter as clear as possible. The Iranians affirmed that they did not need any land or resources. They have the land that they need, and they have the resources that fulfill their needs. You have read these communiques and statements. We have tangibly affirmed our meanings in various statements and embodied them in practice. As for the progress of the war and the offensives and counteroffensives, this is something different. I never referred to them in any statements or at any time. At a meeting with Shaykh Jabir, King Fahd, King Husayn, King Hassan, and Saddam Husayn during a dinner banquet King Hassan hosted at the Fes summit, I told them that we were committed to respect Iraqi territory. What is currently taking place in the war are attacks and retreats. When the brothers in Iraq were inside Iran, we did not consider this land to be Iraqi territory. The same thing applies now. The territory is not Iranian territory, but the Iranians are present on this land. The difference is that the Iranians now do not say that they are on Iranian territory and reaffirm that they will not impose their hegemony or a regime on Iraq. The Iraqi people will decide. If one wonders about the guarantees, I will answer: What can we ask from Iran while it is in a state of war?

We base our stand on the fact that Iraqi territory is like Syrian territory. We will defend it in the same manner that we defend Syrian territory.

Question: I agree with all that Syria is doing but differ with it from a sentimental point of view with respect to the Gulf war. I believe that if Syria falls, the entire Arab homeland will also collapse. Syria is the only party that continues to be in a state of confrontation with Israel. That's why I agree with it on 90 percent of matters and differ with it on the Iraq-Iran war, thus expressing the stand of the man on the street in the Gulf. I told

the Iraqi president that I believe that President Hafiz al-Asad is an Arab nationalist whose pan-Arab sentiments cannot be doubted, and I believe that President Saddam Husayn has the same feelings. I asked him to make positive statements on Syria. He said that his forces are ready and that Iraq sent 60,000 soldiers to Syria in 1973. I believe that you can exert the influence you have on the Iranian political leaders. I also asked Saddam Husayn: Who is your enemy? He replied: world Zionism.

Al-Asad: Had the two countries agreed on the fact that our only enemy is world Zionism, we would not have differed. You have identified the ailment. Had Syria and Iraq agreed on this, we would not have differed. I believe that if you go back you will find which party shoulders the responsibility and who is to blame. In 1974, when there was a slight tension on the Iraq-Iran border, I took the initiative to tell Iraq that we could send pilots and aircraft to Iraq if anything happened, despite the fact that our forces and the Israeli forces were not yet disengaged though the war had ceased. I informed them in Iraq that we were ready, although relations between us and Iraq were not good at the time either, but not as bad as they are now. They answered me with only a letter of thanks.

I do not want now to discuss the question of the forces that were sent in the past, as this will perhaps harm the forces that Saddam Husayn says number 60,000 soldiers. I spoke about this subject at the summit conference because he raised the issue there. In any case, when I speak about the subject of the forces, I speak in a documented way because I led the battle here. There is a great difference between our relations now and in 1973. Let us say that these relations were somewhat normal at the time. We had embassies and contacts, contrary to what took place later. Our differences are not linked to the Iraq-Iran war, but preceded it and did not begin with it. Our relations reached rock bottom before the Iraq-Iran war even started, or before we had any concept of it. Our relations worsened following the Iraq-Iran war thanks to our brothers in Iraq who did their best to harm Syria, including the killing of hundreds of people. Last year they sent a group of people, and in only one day some 400 people were killed or wounded in operations against buses. They came from Baghdad through Jordan after the normalization of relations between us and Jordan. This criminal attempt was one of the least harmful ones.

Following Camp David, we tried once again to improve relations because the first initiative was rejected. We established good relations and believed that we had overcome the bad atmosphere in the two countries. We even reached agreements and pacts. What is known as the national charter between Syria and Iraq was not formulated by us. It was formulated by the Iraqis, and we gladly signed it. We also signed other documents, and this created happiness in Syria and Iraq and in the heart of every sincere Arab citizen who wants to live under the canopy of a dignified Arabism.

And suddenly, the Iraqi leadership brushed all of this aside, and declared war on Syria, not necessarily the same kind of war it declared on Iran. It was announced that a Syrian-inspired conspiracy had been uncovered, leading to the execution of 21 persons. Had these been in collusion with us, the conspiracy would have succeeded because all of them were leading figures.

From then on the rupture between us and Iraq was complete, and they began to escalate tension. Ironically, while the hostile Iraqi information campaign focused on Syria, the Iraqis attacked Iran. It was as though they were asking us not to put in a good word for them. Although this behavior was strange from a pan-Arab angle, as well as tactically, politically, and by all standards, as well as stupid and lacking in integrity, we tried our good offices in the initial stage of the war. We tried to avert the war and sought to stop it after hostilities erupted, but a response was not forthcoming. We got in touch with certain Arab leaders and called for action to check the deterioration and requested an Arab foreign ministers meeting to seek a way out of this war before it got out of hand. Again no response was forthcoming.

Occasionally, I hear and read calls for compliance with agreements. I stand for compliance with agreements — the Arab League pact or bilateral ones. A Syrian-Iraqi agreement is still in place. It is those who urge our compliance with agreements that broke them. They have even breached the Arab League joint defense pact, which calls not only for Arabs to join in battle, but also for them to stand together through thick and thin, as well as consult each other. Iraq jumped over all of these bilateral and joint agreements in its failure to consult with us and to honor its financial commitments. Eighteen Iraqi opposition parties have condemned the war against Iran, as well as Arab parties advocating Arab unity. Our enemy is Israel, a fact on which there is agreement. We support and stand by whoever opposes and stands up to Israel.

While we exert ourselves to seek the support of a congressman, an American or a European journalist, Saddam Husayn wants us to alienate a nation of 45 million that rediscovered itself in Islam and wanted to confront Israel under its banner. That was a golden opportunity. The Iran of Khomeini is anti-Israel. Iran was the only country to send forces when Israel invaded Lebanon in 1982.

Question: I was in Cairo last week. The *Al-Qabas* Cairo office conducted an interview with Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal in which he said the Iraq-Iran war has to stop, and the fifth Islamic summit must mandate President Al-Asad to persuade Iran to end the war, as he is the only one in a position to mediate. If you were requested to do this, would you oblige?

Al-Asad: A very important thing must have escaped Haykal's notice, and that is president Al-Asad can only talk to one party to the conflict.

Question: But you can speak in the name of the conference. You can ask the Iranians about their terms for ending the war.

Al-Asad: Who would meet their demands?

Question: The Islamic nations would.

Al-Asad: In any case, I believe the solution is an Arab one, and the problem concerns the Arab nation. Of course, it has repercussions on all the Muslims. However, in my opinion, to the extent we can have a pan-Arab approach, we can work out a solution. When good intentions, pan-Arab thinking and determination, rather than pan-Arab pretensions and clownishness are there,

nothing will be impossible. But proceeding from preconceived ideas, rigid positions, ill will, and maneuvers will do the Arabs no good.

Question: Will your excellency attend the Islamic summit?

Al-Asad: Yes, I will. We have decided Syria should attend as a state. I had not intended to attend personally, until Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad [Kuwaiti foreign minister] came here carrying a letter from the amir of Kuwait expressing a wish that I go myself.

Question: Is a reconciliation with Saddam Husayn possible during the summit?

Al-Asad: Do you think a reconciliation would end the war or further exacerbate it?

Question: I think it would consolidate a comprehensive Arab home.

Al-Asad: We the Arabs states, even if Arab unity eluded us now, should not imagine it is not possible. If we say Arab unity is not possible, this means we are no longer one nation. If we are one nation this means Arab unity is inevitable. We have a problem on our hands. Is it a regional one that concerns Iraq alone, or is it a pan-Arab affair? It is certainly a pan-Arab concern. A problem of this nature is necessarily pan-Arab. We should seek a pan-Arab solution the pursuit of which must not proceed from preconceived ideas, shortsightedness, and certain formalities.

Question: There is the problem of the hostages and so-called terrorism. Our paper has adopted a clear stand on the unjust anti-Syrian campaign.

Al-Asad: Britain's history with the Arabs is well-known. Our struggle with Britain is in the context of our struggle with imperialist nations. Britain brought the Jews to Palestine, brought about all tragedies, and played a dirty part in the plot that came to be known as the Al-Hindawi case, which was an Israeli setup, if not an Israeli-British-U.S. setup.

In fact, I do not approve the hijacking or the blowing up of civilian aircraft. The Zionist-U.S. machine, which uses great force in the world, particularly in the Western world, and above all the United States and Britain, did not achieve the victory they sought. They will not achieve what they want. What they want is to change Syria's policy so it capitulates and adopts the Camp David capitulatory policy in whatever guise. However, Syria has not and will not do this, and the Americans and the Israelis will fail to achieve that objective.

Our people are steadfast. We have great confidence in our Arab nation, in our Arab masses. Our steadfastness is founded on firm thinking, a firm and objective view, and on our perception of the threats posed by the Zionist policy, its base in Israel, and by the forces that support it, particularly the United States and Britain.

Question: Mr President, what are the next steps needed to dissipate the fog that shrouds everything in Lebanon?

Al-Asad: In the face of the 17 May agreement we had the ability and the determination to make every effort, including resorting to force without hesitation, because we were facing a very serious matter, namely turning Lebanon into an Israeli protectorate. The Lebanese masses were heroic and struggled hard and were able, in cooperation with Syria, to topple the 17 May agreement, which they viewed as a catastrophe for Lebanon, Syria, and the Arab nation. With regard to the resolution of Lebanon's internal problem, the matter is different, because the problem requires a political solution and not a solution through the use of force. We have worked a long time to bring about a Lebanese national dialogue. We have encouraged it in the past and are encouraging it now, because it is the best way, however long it takes. Naturally, there are forces working against the success of such a role and opposing a cessation of the fighting in Lebanon. These forces are primarily Israel and its various instruments and stooges, supported by the United States.

The Israelis and the Americans can obstruct reconciliation in Lebanon, but not forever. Although they may be able to obstruct reconciliation, they cannot mold Lebanon into the form they desire. Their experience with the Arabs — Lebanese, Syrians, and others — has confirmed that fact. Our stamina in the battle for a national dialogue that aims to return Lebanon to its normal situation is great, and has to be greater than the stamina of the Americans and Israelis, who are obstructing our attempts and those of the Lebanese. Contacts are now being held among various Lebanese parties and between us and Lebanon. We want Lebanon, the fraternal Arab country, to be unified and, above all, to be Arab in its affiliations and commitments. We are on the side of our brothers in Lebanon, and extend support to them on that basis. The road is not easy.

Question: Do you expect an imminent meeting between you and President Amin al-Jumayyil?

Al-Asad: There is no problem between me and President Amin al-Jumayyil. We extend advice, and in the past extended support to President Al-Jumayyil, but want him to be more dynamic and more anxious to end the present situation in Lebanon and be more flexible. The problem is not whether a summit will be held, but what will it accomplish? As long as the Lebanese are pinning hopes on such a summit they must not be disappointed. That is what we are seeking now. We have not yet agreed on an exact date for a summit. In principle, there is always the possibility of a meeting, but we are still discussing the ideas that could emerge from such a meeting. I will not reach an agreement with President Amin al-Jumayyil in place of the Lebanese, for the agreement will be among the Lebanese. However, there are broad lines — let us say an umbrella — of ideas that bring the various parties together.

Question: Is Damascus still closed to Yasir 'Arafat?

Al-Asad: There is no problem between us and Yasir 'Arafat. The problem is between him and his brothers in the Palestinian arena. When they agree with each other there will not be a problem with Syria. What is important is they all adhere to the agreements and to the strategy of steadfastness and sacrifice, a protracted strategy against Israel, a stand that inspires hope and not despair among Palestinian and Arab citizens inside or outside

the occupied territory. The wars between us and the imperialist Crusaders who came from Europe lasted 200 years, and were also wars in which there was advance and retreat. The imperialist Crusaders dominated an area that is not small. However, the Arabs did not capitulate but continued to fight for 200 years. The Crusaders were finished, and we triumphed over them.

If we had adopted the logic of some Arab brothers who are now saying: what can we do, and we have been suffering defeats for scores of years, and we must be realistic — if we had adopted this logic against the Crusaders we would not be as we are now, and these countries would have been European.

The causes of peoples and nations are not temporary issues that last for a few years or scores of years. I mean we must not accept the logic of despair.

Question: That is the first time I have heard such words. What we used to hear is you would not meet with 'Arafat, regardless of whether he agreed or differed with his Palestinian brothers.

Al-Asad: I said when he agrees with his brothers there will be no problem between him and Syria because, in light of what I hear from the Palestinian factions, I believe we and these factions have the same strategic perception. Consequently, I cannot imagine they will agree with him on his political line. When I said when they agree, I assumed the agreement would be in accordance with the real Palestinian strategy and, consequently, in accordance with the Syrian and Arab strategy. I mean the strategy of steadfastness. If the situation were otherwise, they would not have differed.

You know how much Syria struggled and suffered for the sake of the Palestine cause. Our concern has always been to straighten out the PLO's affairs, to support it, to bring it into the limelight, and to strengthen it. Syria played a prominent role in introducing the PLO to the United Nations. Yasir 'Arafat is now dealing with the Camp David positions.

Question: Are the rumors about Syrian-Egyptian contacts true?

Al-Asad: There have not been any contacts between the two governments. Some people at times, intentionally or unintentionally, misunderstand certain contacts of a popular nature, such as the drama festival held in Damascus. This festival was a victory. It produced a union for Arab artists according to a charter providing that the mission of this union and Arab artists is to fight Zionism and its base, Israel, and to confront the Camp David accords and the process of normalization.

Question:— Mr President, do you believe that President Mubarak is a good man and deserves encouragement so no one worse will come to power?

Al-Asad: President Husni Mubarak is a good person, but the question is whether we go to Camp David or he departs from Camp David and comes to us. Therefore, Egypt must get rid of Camp David and return to us. It is impossible to put one foot in Camp David and the other in the position of steadfastness. The objective is for Egypt to be support the Arab position, which does

not capitulate. It is not acceptable to see the Arabs, who are not capitulating, moving to the Camp David position. Our stand is not against President Husni Mubarak personally. It stems from the Arab and Islamic summit resolutions that condemned the Camp David accords and stood against them.

The Camp David accords have weakened Egypt in all fields. The United States and Israel want Egypt to become powerless, weak, and unable to stand up. If there is a desire for Egypt to stand on its own feet, it must take place outside Camp David.

We believe the Egyptian people, who rose up against the Camp David accords, will not surrender to these unjust accords nor will they relinquish Egypt's Arab role. I lived in Egypt for 4 years and knew many Egyptian officers. I was certain of the Egyptian Army's patriotism.

Question: How are Syria's relations with the USSR and why, after his visit to India, has Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev not visited Syria?

Al-Asad: Our relations with the USSR are good. The understanding between us is on a large scale. Without any reservations, we can say that our relations are based on firm grounds of trust and friendship. We have always worked to deepen these relations because the USSR firmly adopts a principled stand on our just

struggle against the Zionist aggression. The USSR supports the Arabs without having any ambitions against them. We and the Arabs, I believe, do not feel that the USSR has any ambitions. Our suffering now is not caused by the USSR, but by others. While others support our enemy, supplying it with power, weapons, and money as well as with political cover and support, the USSR is supporting us and giving us supplies out of principles that we have never felt were conditional. We believe the USSR has the right to expect us, the Arabs, to acknowledge this favor, particularly since we say that loyalty and gratitude are traits of ours.

Regarding Gorbachev's visit to Syria, we have not discussed this subject. I do not believe it will be a subject of disagreement if it is presented for discussion. The existing confidence between us allows the discussion of any subject without embarrassment.

Question: Mr President, this is the last question. Do you suffer from any health problems as claimed by Western circles?

Al-Asad: I certainly do not suffer the health problems that are described and desired by Westerners. If I had the health problems they claim, I could not endure the great efforts I exert. Based on what doctors say and on laboratory tests, I feel my health is fine.

Hawke Brings Message From Husayn on Conference

TA271751 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1730 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Text] The Australian prime minister this evening conveyed a message from King Husayn to Prime Minister Shamir. Following their talk, the two participated in a ceremony in which a memorandum for scientific cooperation between the two countries was signed. Our correspondent 'Adi Malul provides additional details: [Begin Malul recording] Jordan is interested in peace; however, unlike Egypt, it cannot sign a separate accord. Jordan will agree to participate in an international conference on condition the Soviet Union is also included. The reason for this is the Soviet Union has influence over Syria and the PLO. This was said this evening by Robert Hawke in a talk with Prime Minister Shamir. In reply, Shamir said: We do not now have a harsh security problem on the border with Jordan. We will not attend a large-scale conference such as proposed by King Husayn. Israel will only agree to direct meetings with Jordan and Egypt, although we have no objection to the participation of the United States, if Jordan would like this. In addition, we will agree to talk with Palestinians who are not members of the PLO. Another subject that arose in the discussion: Shamir proposed to Hawke the establishment of a free trade zone between Australia and Israel. The framework could be similar to that with the United States, or an agreement such as the one we have with the EEC. Regarding specifics, Shamir asked to buy coal from Australia on condition that Israel be able to increase its exports to Australia. [end recording]

Shamir Rejects Hawke Stance

TA280550 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 28 Jan 87

[Text] Australia's Prime Minister Bob Hawke, visiting here, said his government acknowledges the right of the Palestinian people to set up their own independent state if they wish. Hawke was speaking at the Knesset last night during a banquet in his honor. Reporter Steve Weizman was there.

[Begin recording][Weizman] According to reports in this morning's press, Hawke had been planning to make a public call for the setting up of a Palestinian state, but was dissuaded by President Herzog. If last night's speech was a call as such, it certainly constituted unmistakable support for such a state.

[Hawke] The Australian Government believes that a resolution of the Palestinian question is central to any Middle East settlement. We acknowledge the right of self-determination to the Palestinian people, including the right, if they so choose, to independence and the possibility of establishing their own independent state.

[Weizman] Hawke went on to say that although prior to 1967 the creation of a Palestinian state would not have been possible without the disappearance of Israel, the world now knows, he said, that Israel is not going to disappear. On the basis of talks he has had since leaving Canberra, he said, he feels there are many who seek confederation as the solution to the Palestinian problem. Prime Minister Shamir also emphasized the drive for

peace, but left no doubt as to his feelings on the issue of a Palestinian state:

[Shamir] We in Israel are united in our total rejection of terror and terrorist organizations such as the PLO, nor can we agree to any suggestion that the Palestinian issue be resolved by the establishment of another Palestinian Arab state west of the River Jordan. Such a proposal is bound to pose a great threat to Israel and to the security and stability of the region.

[Weizman] Hawke himself is due to meet Palestinian leaders in just under an hour from now. Later today he will meet Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres, and it is certain that the peace process will be top of the agenda at that meeting. [end recording]

Hawke on Jordan Summit Stance

TA281016 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 28 Jan 87 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Yosi Melman]

[Text] Australian Prime Minister Robert Hawke yesterday reported on flexibility in Jordan's stance. He told Prime Minister Shamir he had heard from King Husayn he is prepared to go for an international conference with the participation of Egypt, Israel, and the United States. The report indicates Jordan no longer insists on its demand for an international conference with the participation of the USSR, although it believes Soviet participation will have a moderating influence on the positions of Syria and the PLO. In reaction, the prime minister said this signifies progress in King Husayn's approach and he is encouraged by it. "The idea is acceptable to me as a way to conduct negotiations."

Foreign Minister Peres Holds Meeting With EEC

For reportage on the activities of Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres in Brussels, including his meeting with Spanish Foreign Minister Fernandez Ordonez and his statement that an agreement had been reached with Egypt, Jordan, and Morocco on the need to reach the negotiating table without preconditions, see the European Communities section of the 27 January Western Europe Daily Report and subsequent issues.

Levi Criticizes Peres Statements on Settlement

TA261728 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1600 GMT 26 Jan 87

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister David Levi has attacked Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres for his remarks made abroad concerning the freezing of settlement in Judea and Samaria. Our correspondent Avshalom Ginosar reports that in a meeting with the heads of the Efrat settlement in Gush 'Ezyon, Minister Levi said the Likud must insist on its plan and not accept a different ideology. The establishment of new settlements is part of the coalition agreement, Minister Levi said, adding the Jordanization process in Judea and Samaria should not be accepted and Jordan should not be accorded preference in the area in any way.

Levi Interviewed on Iran-Iraq War, South Lebanon
TA251855 Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic
 1700 GMT 25 Jan 87

[Interview with Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi by unidentified correspondent; place, date not given — videorecorded, in Hebrew]

[Text][Correspondent] Is an Iranian victory over Iraq dangerous to Israel?

[Levi] At every stage of this war we begin to think a complete victory is to be expected. We should understand we have here large-scale and horrific battles. However, it is not necessarily expected following any of them one country will be victorious and the other defeated. I assume even when the battles are over these two countries, Iran and Iraq, will be involved in border tensions. I am not well informed about the situation in Basra, but on the basis of the information we possess I assume there is great Iranian pressure in this direction. However, the Iraqis have not lost the place, and as I said before, even if they lose it, it will not mean total defeat.

[Correspondent] Given these circumstances, do you think Iraq is completely out of the eastern front against Israel for an undefined period of time?

[Levi] At present they are very busy and have to use all their power in the war against Iran. Iraq has a historic link with the war against Israel, and I can foresee a situation in which they will join in a war against Israel, both because of this historic link and as a way of escaping from their problem on their eastern border, the war against Iran. Our attitude, therefore, is today they are busy and we are consequently less concerned [interruption in transmission].

[Correspondent] Can an Iranian victory over the Iraqis increase the former's influence in southern Lebanon against Israel and the security zone?

[Levi] The Iranians are already influential. They are active all over Lebanon; they are active also on the Syrian level. Their involvement is on several levels. The Iranian-Syrian connection, for example, is not unproblematic as far as Syria is concerned. There is also a very large Shi'ite community in southern Lebanon, and there are very tight links between some of the Iranian elements — not all the Iranians have to be involved in Lebanon — with various levels in Lebanon. They are involved in all the Lebanese issues. Sometimes this causes not only internal problems in Lebanon, but also opposes Syrian interests.

[Correspondent] Do you think the recent intensive Hizballah action against the South Lebanese Army [SLA] and the IDF should be regarded in this light?

[Levi] This is an ongoing activity. They have decided they want to be a dominant factor in the Shi'ite community. In order to attain this they want to show success only in terms of becoming more extreme, and I am not sure this will serve the interests of the Shi'ite community. However, there are many attempts to involve more and more Shi'ite elements in direct action against

the SLA and Israel. At the same time there is a parallel move, for example, the fight of Amal against the Palestinians. They are trying to have the best of both worlds and strengthen themselves through that struggle, as well.

[Correspondent] Mr Chief of Staff, can we now say the SLA is recuperating thanks to the backing of the IDF in the security zone?

[Levi] The term backing is accurate: It means when there are difficulties we should give more aid, and when pressures decrease we can do with less backing. We help them accordingly. I feel we have very good coordination, and I think our current backing is sufficient to meet what we expect to happen. If there is more pressure by Hizballah we will have to increase our aid, if pressure goes down we will decrease our aid. We must remember the SLA's mission is to enable normal life in the area under its control. I know there was a lot of noise regarding the issue of the SLA, its strength and its ability to withstand attacks. However, if we look at the manner in which the local inhabitants live — and this is the SLA's mission — it is still calm, perhaps one of the calmest areas in Lebanon.

[Correspondent] Do you think in the near future the SLA will be able to successfully withstand recurring Hizballah attacks, as was the case in the past?

[Levi] I believe so. It is a problematic issue, and there is a difference between various areas regarding the backing it enjoys among the population, because in principle this is a militia which depends on the aid it gets in the field. The military angle is not the only one on which good relations depend. We are also active in other spheres. I think the SLA has an influence on the civilian population — this is something which people do not talk about — I think it has very good achievements in this sphere.

[Correspondent] Mr Chief of Staff, do you think the IDF's involvement will increase in the future in light of the aid it gives to the SLA in the security zone?

[Levi] Our involvement is an outcome of the threats we face. If the SLA's power decreases, the IDF will have to increase its involvement. However, I do not think we will have to increase our involvement. I think the SLA is strong and is in control. We are giving it the necessary backing. Right now things look fully acceptable to me.

Economic Package Extends Price Freeze Till 1988
TA271229 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
 1100 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Excerpt] Finance Minister Moshe Nisim, Histadrut Secretary General Yisra'el Qeysar, and Industrialists Association President Dov Lautman this morning signed the package deal. It extends price controls on goods and services until the end of March 1988 and freezes the price of subsidized goods, apart from public transport. Wage earners will have to give up part of the cost-of-living allowance. [passage omitted]

Petroleum Association Meeting Opens in Lagos

*AB242240 Lagos Domestic Service in English
2100 GMT 24 Jan 87*

[Text] The managing director of the Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation, Godwin Adams, has called on technical experts of the African Petroleum Producers Association, APPA, to lay a solid foundation upon which a strong organization of African oil-producing countries will be built.

Addressing the opening session of a meeting of experts of the member-countries of APPA in Lagos today, Mr Adams reminded them that the outcome of their deliberations would be very crucial to the survival of APPA. He urged the experts to ensure that their recommendations met the immediate and future needs of member-countries of APPA, adding that the promotion, cooperation, understanding and well-being of member-countries in particular and Africa in general, should guide them in their recommendations.

The managing director urged the experts to consider the issue of petroleum legislation, marketing, exploration, policies and prospects, manpower development, technical transfer, and the optimum utilization of training facilities available in member-countries.

About 19 technical experts from Nigeria, Algeria, Angola, Benin Republic, Cameroon, Congo, Egypt, and Libya are considering the draft statutes of APPA. The experts will also review the world oil market.

Nigerian President Opens Meeting

*AB261645 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1200 GMT 25 Jan 87*

[Text] President Ibrahim Babangida says that cooperation among African petroleum producers is essential in order to expand the continent's oil reserve base and stretch its lifespan. Cooperation in oil exploration, he said, could also belie the common opinion that no major oil find is possible in the immediate future.

President Babangida was speaking in Lagos today when he inaugurated the African Petroleum Producers' Association, APPA. He stressed the need for comprehensive exchange of information and technical expertise among member nations of the organization not only to substantially reduce the average funding cost but also to enable African states to penetrate areas which now appear hostile, including off-shore.

Major General Babangida urged the participating countries to pool their resources in order to provide a long-term solution to the energy problems of the continent. He noted that producer nations have come to accept the need to reduce excessive dependence on crude oil exports while at the same time expand the use of gas and petroleum products as foreign exchange earners. The president therefore appealed to those countries that are about to embark on petrochemical industries to learn from the experiences of others and therefore realize maximum returns from their

crude oil resources as well as encourage domestic industrial expansion.

[Words indistinct] shortly after the inaugural session. Eight African countries are in Nigeria for the meeting. Egyptian oil minister could not attend because of ill health and mandated the head of the country's technical team to represent their country. Meanwhile the conference has retired into a closed door session which will be (?rounded off) tomorrow.

Tripoli Reports Group

*LD242348 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic
1330 GMT 24 Jan 87*

[Text] The brother secretary of the People's General Committee for Planning confirmed in a statement to JANA that the birth of the African Petroleum Producers Association is a culmination of the efforts of OPEC's African members — the Great Jamahiriyyah, Algeria, Nigeria, and Gabon. The organization will serve the objectives of the oil exporting African countries and unite our efforts for the exploitation of Africa's natural resources in the interest of coming generations.

He explained the Great Jamahiriyyah, the main founding member in this organization, together with African members of OPEC, sees as its duty the establishment of a regional organization for the oil exporting African states to coordinate cooperation among themselves, not only in the field of oil exportation, but also in other fields, including prospecting, the development of oil fields, technical services, and the signing of contracts. Thus, member countries can assist each other and bar the door of exploiting companies.

He added this organization does not replace OPEC or OAPEC: rather, it complements the efforts of those two organizations to maintain the stability of the oil market from the aspects of production and prices. Thus, states outside oil organizations join within the framework of this organization, and coordination among all these organizations can be achieved in the interest of these states. Any fault in the oil market leading to declining prices, as happened last year, can thus be avoided.

Libya Protests Egypt's Admission

*AB261720 London BBC World Service in English
1615 GMT 26 Jan 87*

[Text] A new international body to regulate the production of oil held its first meeting today in Lagos. The African Petroleum Producers' Association or APPA, may well consist of Nigeria, Cameroon, Gabon, Libya, Benin, Algeria, Angola, Congo and Egypt. However, it seems that there has been a hitch about membership almost immediately. From Lagos, (Shola Odumfor) sent us this report:

[Begin recording] The council of ministers meeting opened here this morning and was immediately dogged by the political wrangling between Libya and Egypt. Technical experts from the nine member countries met on Saturday and yesterday to prepare the groundwork for today's ministerial meeting, but they could not

resolve the problem created by Libya's opposition to Egypt's membership. Sources at the meeting said that Libyan delegates hinted that they might withdraw if Egypt was let in. Egypt's deputy oil minister said his government would take a decision on his country's membership after the current meeting.

Libya's secretary general for planning, Fawzi al-Shakshuki, who is responsible for petroleum matters, told journalists that he believed that if Egypt was not a member it would have no effect on the working of the organization.

When ministers began the first working session of the meeting this morning, they elected Nigeria's minister of petroleum resources Alhaji Rilwanu Lukman chairman of the meeting and the minister of mines and power of Congo republic, Rodolphe Adada, as alternate chairman. The ministers are considering the draft statutes of the association. It is expected that they will sign the approved document tomorrow and proclaim the birth of APPA. All indications are that the founding member states will

number eight, with Egypt officially reserving the decision on its membership. [end recording]

Egyptian Membership Barred

*LD262227 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 26 Jan 87*

[Excerpts] Today, in Lagos, the Egyptian hirelings regime was excluded by majority vote from membership in the African Petroleum Producers Association. It was established today by the nine African founding member countries, including the Great Jamahiriyah, Algeria, Nigeria, and Gabon. [passage omitted]

The organization's opening meeting was attended by nine petroleum ministers or their representatives. It is noteworthy the nine countries produced 96.6 percent of African oil production and 7.8 percent of world production last year.

ALGERIA

Earthquake Measures 5.1 on Richter Scale

LD271258 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Text] A tremor measuring 5.1 on the Richter Scale was recorded in the region of El Abadia, 30 kms southwest of Chelif. According to the Research and Earthquake Monitoring Center in Bouzareah, the main tremor, which occurred at 0011, was followed by a series of light tremors; the most recent of which was recorded this morning at 0730 hours. According to preliminary statistics issued by the rescue center in the commune of Al-Ourba, daïra of Bordj Bounaama, Wilaya of Tissemsilt, this earthquake, which occurred in the regions of Mohammadia, Brahimia, (Tsoulte), and Safiet, killed a baby, injured 7 people and rendered 629 families homeless.

Immediately afterward, members of province coordination groups went to the damaged regions to supervise the aid operation for the victims, with the help of security authorities.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Interviewed by Lebanese Magazine

NC270916 Beirut AL-KIFAH AL-'ARABI in Arabic
26 Jan 87 pp 14-16

[Interview with Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi by Walid al-Husayni, editor in chief of *Al-Kifah Al-'Arabi*, in the Gulf of Sidra; date not given]

[Text] [Al-Husayni] I am sure you have read the negative reactions in Lebanon to your attacks on the Shi'ites. As a national leader and one of the foremost advocates of Arab unity, and because you are the first of the few leaders in present times to call for Islam without sects, what are your motives for these attacks?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] In fact, my target was not the Shi'ites, whose struggle as part of the Lebanese people's struggle against the Israeli enemy I respect. My target was sectarianism. As a Muslim I do not believe in Sunnism, the Shi'ite, Druze, 'Alawite, or Isma'ili sect. I believe in Islam and consider sectarianism to be an emulation of Christianity. A genuine Muslim would not join any sect. There are several verses of the holy Koran that forbid this. Therefore, sectarianism is a deviation from the teachings of Islam. Sects do not exist in the principles of Islam. They are innovations, as proved by the fact they emerged and grew after the death of the prophet. For this reason our calendar dates from the death of the prophet, on the principle that the break in the link between heaven and earth made all innovations in Islam civil and secular issues. Since these sects appeared after the death of the prophet Muhammad, they are invalid. There must be a return to non-sectarian Islam, in order to unify Muslims. This is what we believe the course of Islam should be. I am against all sects, which is what I meant in my statement. Otherwise, why would I refer to the Shi'ites, given our close links with their spiritual leaders in Iran? I am against internecine fighting, which impedes

the struggle against the Israeli enemy. I am absolutely not against any organization just because it is Shi'ite. At one time, when fighting was continuing against the Israelis, I stood up before the masses and praised and applauded this organization. The question is clear to me. The current fighting must stop and unity between the Palestinians and southerners must be restored. Generally speaking — and let there be no misunderstanding about my position — from now on, I will have no relations with any group, whatever its slogans and claims, if its background is sectarian or dogmatic. I hoist the banner of Arab nationalism. Anyone who wants to fight on my side under this principle is welcome to do so. Those who do not want to are on the other side. For the sake of realism, my position on this issue must be clear, and must be decisively settled now. For this reason, from this moment on, I will not extend my hand to assist, talk, or waste my time with any organization that has sectarian or dogmatic foundations. If a Druze believes in Arab nationalism, he must join us under this principle. The same applies to any Sunnite, Shi'ite, Maronite, Orthodox, Catholic, or Armenian. I will have nothing to do with the parties or organizations of the sects. The young people of all sects and creeds should come under the banner of Arab nationalism, because the Arab nation is now in real danger.

[Al-Husayni] But you know sectarianism in Lebanon is at the root of the crisis and, consequently, at the root of a solution. How can we emerge from the civil war by ignoring sectarianism?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] I am fully aware what you say is one of the bitter facts of the Lebanese crisis. I understand Lebanon's current problems, which Jallud is trying to help resolve on behalf of Libya. Because sectarianism is the crisis and the solution, I have decided to dissociate myself from Lebanon.

[Al-Husayni] But the Lebanese crisis does not exist in isolation. Rather, it is one, albeit a major one, of the crises of the Arab homeland.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] It seems I must explain this so my decision not to interfere in Lebanon will not be interpreted as a relinquishment of a pan-Arab responsibility. I trust my brother President Hafiz al-Asad, who is dealing with the Lebanese problems. We will offer any assistance or contribution toward resolving the Lebanese crisis through Syria. When Syria asks for help regarding the Lebanese issue, we will not be found wanting. We will offer weapons and men and voice our political stand through Syria. My decision means from now on we will not be a party to the Lebanese crisis. We trust President al-Asad and his wisdom and concern about Arab nationalism, Arab unity, confrontation, and liberation. Therefore, as long as President al-Asad is dealing with the situation, I am confident

I would like to add our decision to remove ourselves from Lebanon is meant to preclude any depiction of our presence as a competition with Syria. Our presence could place us in a position which would permit certain parties to portray us as their ally, which we cannot allow. We are not competing with Syria. Our role in the Lebanese crisis is complementary to the Syrian role, backing our brothers, the Palestinians and Lebanese. We do not want to and cannot overstep the Syrian role in Lebanon. I have confidence, as I said, in Syria's stand, pan-Arab policies, and concern for the interests of all Lebanese.

This is why I am standing back to allow Lebanon and the Lebanese crisis to be dealt with by my brother, President al-Asad. Libya remains willing to help the Lebanese and the Palestinians if asked to do so by Syria, through whom the assistance will be extended.

[Al-Husayni] Brother Mu'ammār, some remarks about Lebanese Christians have been attributed to you. Are they true?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] Yes, they are. Arab Christians in Lebanon have been badly provoked by sectarians and irresponsible people. Religious extremism in the region has pushed some Christians to cross the red line and cooperate with the Israelis or the Americans, and sometimes with the French.

Provocation breeds fear, and fear may prompt the Christians to cooperate with the devil. Christians see the Israelis as the Great Satan, and this is sufficient reason for everyone to stop provoking them. Regrettably, they are now being more provoked than ever, by matters such as the call for an Islamic republic in Lebanon. How can such a call be made in a half-Christian country? This is irresponsible.

I support some of the organizations to whom this call is attributed, like Hizballah. I support Hizballah in its struggle against the Israeli enemy, but not in such calls. Hizballah and all parties and sects should abstain totally from doing anything to antagonize Arab Christians. The issue now is to call for martyrdom in south Lebanon to liberate it from the Israeli enemy, or in the land of Palestine. The struggle should be directed solely against the Israelis.

[Al-Husayni] How do you view the Gulf war, following the recent dramatic developments?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] This has turned into a crazy war with hysterical overtones. There are hysterical acts in which scores of civilians are killed on both sides. This is the point where reason is needed to stop this madness.

It is also a war with no clear purpose, as proven by the many years of fighting. It cannot be terminated militarily because of the equal strength of both sides. It also lacks strategic goals. The Arabs do not want to annex Iran, and the Persians do not seek to annex the Arabs. What are the objectives of this war? Neither Iran nor Iraq is occupied, so the Arabs and Persians are not trying to liberate territory.

Thus, the only declared goal of the war is for each side to try to topple the leaders of the other. Is this a good reason for hundreds of thousands to die? Are not the leaders in question human beings doomed to the ultimate human fate: Death? Why should we seek to force the hand of God in this matter and insist on this collective death in Iran and Iraq?

On this basis, Libya should work for reason and logic to control the fighting, which will never be decisive. The war has damaged Islamic ethics and reputation and the Arab image and values. Horrendous acts have been perpetrated in the course of this war, acts which have harmed us all before the world. From an Arab viewpoint, Iraq has done things that should have never been

recorded in history. From the Islamic viewpoint, both Iraq and Iran have written a black page in our history.

The relationship between Iran and Iraq must be governed by understanding and good-neighborliness. Violence should only be used against Zionism, the Americans, the French, and the British. In other words, violence should be used against the real colonialists who support the Zionist entity so together they can ruin our Arab homeland and Islamic nation. The Arab and Persian nations must be linked by brotherhood and good-neighborliness. Good-neighborliness should be the governing principle in [relations between] two neighboring nations. This is in contrast to the proposals put forward by certain people who call for good-neighborliness between one Arab people and another. There can be no good-neighborliness between two Arab peoples. They are one people, governed by the force of unity. But good-neighborliness should be the cornerstone of relations between the Persians and the Arabs, as two Islamic nations.

[Al-Husayni] Arab differences continue to grow, and efforts to mend them have completely run out of steam. Do you not believe the Arab situation requires you to embark on an initiative to minimize differences, having failed to reach a minimum agreement?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] Actually, the Gulf war, more than other events, has motivated me to prepare a plan to confront the dangers that imperil the Arab homeland, since most of the attempts at agreement have utterly failed. There is a frenzied war in the Gulf, which is liable to spread. There is a civil war in Lebanon, leading to a proliferation of civil wars. The Palestinians are sharply divided among themselves and suffering from a difficult situation in Lebanon. The Americans, in cooperation with the British, attacked Libya from the north, with the support of NATO forces. Now, as you can see, the Americans and the French are attacking Libya from the south, through Chad. Zionism has occupied Palestine and vast Arab territories and continues to threaten Syria and Lebanon. Sudan is reconsidering its Arab and Islamic identity and personality. There are certain problems generated by radical movements [mashakil shu'ubiyah] in Algeria as well as in Mauritania. There are economic blockades and oil wars here and there. All these regrettable events have made me draw up a plan to unify ranks as soon as possible, to salvage the Arab nation from the dangers that beset it. Unless we salvage it, it will become like the Red Indian nation.

[Al-Husayni] It is well known you support unity of objective, and not unity of ranks.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] We are now facing a situation threatening us all with extinction. We must meet to confront all these dangers. All the Arabs must demand from Egypt it rid itself of Camp David. The Camp David accords were a severe blow to the Arabs. Egypt's role is extremely important, and all these dangers have arisen during its absence. Iraq and Iran must accept a cease-fire. We, as Arabs, must compensate both of them and dress their wounds. The Arabs must compensate Egypt and help its economy, and perhaps Iran might participate in this. Hence, I call for an Arab summit, to be attended by all the Arabs including Egypt, provided it divests itself of Camp David. The Palestinians must attend this summit, and I have no objection to the participation

of Yasir 'Arafat and the PNSF in this conference, if they do not agree on a neutral personality like Khalid al-Fahum. All Palestinian organizations would be able to attend the summit as observers.

At this conference, I will propose a plan of Arab union. I previously proposed this plan to the Arab leaders. It seeks to establish a union for the entire Arab homeland. The presidency of this union will be assumed by Arab leaders on a rotational basis. It will include a cabinet and executive council made up of heads of government.

Apart from political unity, there would also be substantial economic unity — for example, an Arab industries establishment, a water authority, another for gas, a fourth for electricity, and a fifth for scientific research. Our target is to unify all Arab economic and scientific resources. This would complement the unified political action to be undertaken by the heads of government and ministers.

If we do not implement this plan, the Arab nation is doomed. I will send envoys to the Arab leaders in this regard.

JANA Editor on Reagan Address to Congress
LD250127 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland
in Arabic 0015 GMT 25 Jan 87

[Text] Israel's mad dog, Reagan, said the great Jamahiriya is still threatening the security of the United States. This came in his address to Congress during the past 2 days. [as heard] JANA's international affairs editor commented on the boasts of the mad dog. He said:

Israel's mad dog's dream and ambition to see the great Jamahiriya and its master people surrender to him will never be fulfilled. He is a fool and naive, because he, and his administration and its symbols, know we are not afraid of them and we challenge them every day.

Jana's international affairs editor added: The threats of the mad dog and his administration did not and will never effect us. He has tried. It was proved to him by irrefutable evidence last 15 April, we are a steadfast people and our will is made of steel and not affected by his bombs, aircraft, or battleships with which he filled the Mediterranean, which he made into a forest of battleships to confront a small people. He thought our people are small in numbers, but found it strong in its will, steadfastness, and defiance to arrogance and hegemony.

Criticizes Gulf War Remarks
LD251956 Tripoli JANA in English 1801 GMT 25 Jan 87

[All quotation marks as received]

[Text] Tripoli, ay Anwar 25, *Jamahiriya News Agency* — The Israeli mad dog Reagan declared that the expansion of the Iran-Iraq [war] represents a fundamental threat to American strategic interests in the region.

He called on Iran to find a peaceful settlement. He said in a statement issued by the Dark House "We share our friends in the Gulf their concern over the possibility of the expansion of the war and the threat that would pose to their security. We consider any such expansion of the war as a threat to our interests and those of our friends in the area.

The political editor in JANA commented on this statement. He pointed out that this statement comes out of an agent and a businessman who contributed and is still contributing towards fuelling further the fire of war between Iraq and Iran. This vile agent pretends to forget that he is in the dock for his part in this war.

The political editor asked: Is he deceiving the whole world and because he is an arms dealer he looks at others as if all of them are like him — arms dealers? [sentence as received]

The editor said "O...arms dealer you let down your people as your talk became embarrassing and laughable and the credibility of your country is at all time low as a result of the blows dealt to your insolent face.

All the countries of the world know that you are an arms dealer and you have no right to speak on a subject for which you are in the dock as a criminal selling weapons and fuelling the fire of war further.

Radio Bardai: Habre Troops in Zovar Destroyed
LD251950 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1905 GMT 25 Jan 87

[Text] Bardai, 25 Jan (JANA) — Radio Bardai has confirmed hiring Habre's forces, which are supported by the United States and France, and which tried to sneak into Zouar region, have been completely exterminated by the forces of the legitimate Chadian GUNT. [Transitional Government of National Unity]. The radio pointed out all the personnel of these forces have been exterminated, and the remainder who tried to escape have been taken prisoner. [sentence as received]

The radio confirmed the region of Tibesti, and the areas within that region, have become restricted areas for hiring Habre's forces, because these areas are under the control of the new GUNT, supported by the masses of the Chadian people.

SUDAN

Sudan Denies Airspace to U.S. Chad-Bound Planes
JN251244 Khartoum SUNA in English 0915 GMT
25 Jan 87

[Text] Khartoum, Jan 25 (SUNA) — The Sudanese Government has refused to allow U.S. military planes to cross Sudan's airspace to Chad, a daily news paper *Al-Sudani* reported today.

The paper pointed that the U.S. Government, last week had requested that its planes be allowed to cross Sudan for Ndjamena, but Sudan has rejected the demand and affirmed its neutral position as regards the ongoing war in neighbouring Chad.

On the other hand Sudan's ambassador to Washington has protested to U.S. Government over an invitation it extended to a delegation from the rebel movement of Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) of John Garang. The invitation was subsequently withdrawn, the paper reported.

WESTERN SAHARA

Fighters Destroy Boat; 2 Passengers Safe

LD252308 Algiers Domestic Service in French

2200 GMT 25 Jan 87

[Text] Another boat has been destroyed by Saharan fighters in Saharan territorial waters south of Dakhla. The passengers of the small pleasure boat, a Swedish male and a Spanish female, are safe.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Speech Marks Battle Anniversary
EA231929 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic
 1814 GMT 22 Jan 87

["Text" of speech by Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the WPE Central Committee, chairman of the PMAC, and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, at opening ceremony of celebrations marking the centenary of the Battle of Dogali, at the WPE Congress Hall in Addis Ababa on 22 January — recorded]

[Text] Dear participants in the gathering, distinguished guests and comrades: The safeguarding of human dignity is a basic living issue to which great sacrifices have been made in history. The struggle waged in this ancient country of ours is very broad. In our 1,000 years of history, succeeding generations of Ethiopians have withstood conspirators seeking to violate their existence, and built on concrete foundations their special identity, their love of freedom and national feeling.

Whenever our freedom was threatened over numerous generations, by expansionists, aggressors and colonialists, the beloved children of Ethiopia heroically raised their arms to fight without hesitation. They were victorious. In general, our history is full of struggle to protect our identity and preserve our freedom. We are extremely proud because we are the inheritors of the legacy left by numerous heroes who chose to be martyred rather than give in to defeat or give up their freedom. [applause]

All the struggles we have waged to ward off attacks against us throughout our long history have the same basic characteristics. When expansionists, aggressors and colonialists have sought to burden us with their yoke of atrocity, we have fought to preserve our independence and dignity.

It can be generally said that from the past to the present, the aims of our enemies, which have changed in form, and our unwavering refusal to be intimidated, are the same. Successive generations of this country have preserved the freedom of this country by learning from the example set by their predecessors. It can be taken for granted that this current generation will benefit from the heroic legacy of our forefathers. As it is not possible to embark upon historic deeds without first understanding their noble history, they will utilize the positive aspects of their past in their march forward.

We celebrate the victory of the heroes of Dogali over the modern army of Europe on the Red Sea border to Ethiopia with great pride, and we recall with deep feeling the example it has set for us. [applause]

Beloved participants in this meeting, all people who have protected their freedom, their dignity, their country's borders and their unity from aggressors will occupy a special chapter in history.

The ideal established by the sons of the people, who play a vanguard role, will be remembered forever, regardless of time

and national borders. The leader of the Ethiopian forces, Ras Alula, who draped imperialism in a cloak of shame by defeating the Italian invasion force, who answered the call of our country at Dogali, will always be remembered as an icon, because the victory of Dogali came at a time when European colonialists were plotting among themselves to carve up our continent under the guise of civilizing the dark continent. It is the pride and victory of all the people of Africa.

It was not only the Italian invasion force that was defeated, but the whole of the colonialist invasion forces. [passage indistinct]

Apart from Dogali, other battlefields on which the beloved sons of Ethiopia have displayed their heroism are Gundet, Gura, Metema, Adowa, Welwel and other places. The peals of the bell of struggle echoed over all these battlefields, which are manifest proof of the fight for freedom by our staunch heroes, and will always be in our ears. Our psychological makeup cannot accept (?intimidation) by the enemy. Our conscience cannot be clear until we guarantee the rights and freedom of our people.

Beloved participants in this meeting, and comrades: We clearly understand that a people cannot fulfill all its desires through a love of freedom, militancy or a long history alone. While we are proud of the fact that our country has preserved its freedom and dignity, and of our forefathers' refusal to be intimidated, it is crucial that we build our economy to establish our identity on a secure foundation of lasting respect.

In the world today, it is not enough to preserve independence and hold off the enemy at the border to bring about development and enjoy the right to decide one's own destiny. The basic guarantee of invincibility or victory over the enemy is strength in the economic and social spheres. Laxity in this respect would be tantamount to encouraging or inviting the enemy's aggressive tendencies. What we learn from this is that the current revolutionary generation has a historic responsibility of not just holding off enemy attacks, like its forefathers, but also of struggling valiantly to eradicate backwardness, which is a cause of vulnerability. The results of this struggle will not be to hold off, or be victorious over the enemy alone, but will also serve as a deterrent against intended attacks by plotters who have existed throughout our history. There has been no event or occasion in which Ethiopia has attempted to violate the territory or independence of others. [passage indistinct]

Our desire has been, and is, peace and social development. Due to the previous historical situation, our heroes were made on the battlefield. The current situation is a daily march which demands comprehensive struggle, and we expect the heroes who will preserve our identity, to be made in various spheres of construction. We say that the full meaning of freedom is the eradication of all situations that bring about vulnerability in all spheres, and the creation of self-sufficiency in all spheres. Backwardness is the main source of our problems, and we have to struggle with a vengeance to be free of this basic enemy.

Although the results achieved through the development efforts we have made so far are very encouraging, we will have to redouble our efforts and work and struggle harder in accordance with our sincere desire to bring about full independence and a

stable social life in our country. That our efforts involve widespread popular participation, and therefore, bring about correspondingly widespread and speedy results should be the unfaltering maxim of our struggle. Every individual worker should realize that it is his historic responsibility to perform tasks that will satisfy him and benefit his compatriots, and should make all the efforts he possibly can.

Comrades, as we observe the centenary of the victory of Dogali, we recall with deep feeling the heroes who martyred themselves for the dignity of their country and their compatriots a long time ago, and over the past years of the revolution, and we think of the heavy responsibility they have placed upon us. Therefore, this generation is expected not only to be proud of its heroic legacy but also to redouble its example in all spheres to achieve the goal they sacrificed themselves for and to immortalize their names forever.

On the economic front, we are required to achieve self-sufficiency in food, to fulfill our need for basic consumer goods, and to generate the capital required for our development.

On the political front, we have to protect our motherland's freedom from imperialists, reaction, and our enemies, and bring about the supremacy of the people. These require unprecedented efforts. We believe that the establishment of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia [PDRE] in particular will create suitable conditions for the realization of this historic effort of ours.

The people of Ethiopia have understood this, and through their widespread participation have helped in its preparation. They are expected soon to give the draft legal authority by referendum or through direct voting. They will then assume direct ownership of power by electing their representatives. The process of (?democratic implementation) [words indistinct] is unique in the history of our country. [passage indistinct]

We would like to reaffirm here that it is totally futile to think that the working people of Ethiopia, who have resolutely risen to build a society of justice, (?education), and prosperity, will be deterred from this aim, and will again bow down to shame. [applause] All those who are bent on destruction will labor in vain. They will not benefit in any way. Therefore, at this juncture I would like to repeat my call to those, in particular those who have been misled and are aligned with the aims of the enemy, who are struggling against the objective reality in vain, those who have (?not) totally denied their nationality, to correct their aims and stand alongside the people. [applause]

Dear participants and comrades: The people of Ethiopia [word indistinct] have sat for numerous generations. In order to satisfy this longstanding desire, the popular revolution [words indistinct]. In particular (?I believe) that peace is an essential basic condition. Therefore, peace is our perpetual cry. As has been clearly stipulated in our party program, it is revolutionary Ethiopia's desire and policy not to interfere in the internal affairs of countries and in particular to coexist peacefully with its neighbors in a spirit of good-neighborliness; and we have good relations with various countries.

In the future, we will pursue our policy of good-neighborliness and peaceful coexistence without compromising our principles. Based on the principles of proletarian internationalism that we pursue, we shall continue our efforts to make the relations we have established more fruitful. We shall continue supporting peoples struggling for their freedom and justice, in particular the anti-apartheid forces of South Africa, who are struggling to eradicate racism from the African Continent. In general, we shall continue to cherish our good relations with various countries with differing political systems, and not hesitate to do all we can for the future mutual benefit of peoples.

As we celebrate the centenary of the Dogali victory, which is proof of the Ethiopian people's peace-loving nature and refusal to be intimidated, we issue a call:

1. That the peace-loving forces striving to save the world from destruction [words indistinct] get their proper response;
2. That the inestimable wealth being poured into the (?construction) of arms be used for the children of the world who are being cut down by hunger and disease, and for the benefit of all mankind; and
3. That the right of [word indistinct] countries to self-determination be respected, and that cooperation among the forces of justice and democracy be strengthened so that they can emerge from the serious economic crisis they are in. [applause]

In conclusion, I say, let all the genuine sons of Ethiopia embrace the ideal of Dogali, and that of our past and present heroes, and strengthen our united struggle to accelerate the construction of the new Ethiopia. Let us quicken our march forward. We shall establish the PDRE through our struggle. The example of the victory of Dogali shall remain with us for ever.

Thank you. [applause]

Eritrean Radio Reports Victorious Clash *EA271318 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Amharic 0500 GMT 27 Jan 87*

[Text] Heroic combatants of the Eritrean People's Liberation Army have attacked Dergue soldiers at (Kakata), between (Foro) and (Irafaile). During the 30-minute attack, which started at 0500 the day before yesterday, five Dergue soldiers were killed, three were wounded and the others were put to flight. Our heroic combatants captured four guns and one pistol and returned safely to base.

Two Dergue vehicles were destroyed after they struck landmines laid by the heroic combatants of our engineering unit. One vehicle was destroyed between (Foro) and Hargigo and the other between (Foro) and Zula. Nine soldiers were killed and nine others wounded. Two more Dergue soldiers were killed when they tried to remove landmines planted by our engineering unit between (Foro) and Zula.

SOMALIA

AFP: French Hostages Reportedly 'In Good Health'*AU271306 Paris AFP in English 1254 GMT 27 Jan 87*

[Text] Paris, Jan 27 (AFP) — Ten French medical aid workers who were taken hostage in north-western Somalia on Friday night are "in good health and have apparently not been ill-treated," the head of the aid organization which employs the 10 said here on Tuesday.

The 10, four men and six women, were abducted by armed raiders who attacked the Tug Wajale refugee camp where they were working, taking them into nearby Ethiopian territory.

Ronnie Braumann, President of the Medecins Sans Frontieres (Doctors Without Borders) medical aid group, said the report he had received of the hostages' condition came from "various reliable sources." He added that the hostages had been "made to walk for a while" after their kidnapping.

Meanwhile French efforts to gain the hostages' release continued, with government envoy Fernand Wibaux reportedly due to leave for the region on Tuesday. Mr. Wibaux is due to make a stop-over in Djibouti before travelling on to Ethiopia.

Although the kidnapping has not been claimed, it is believed that guerrillas of the Somali National Movement, one of the main rebel groups in northern Somalia, could be involved.

Foreign Minister Departs for Kuwait ICO Meeting*EA211812 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 0330 GMT 21 Jan 87*

[Summary] Foreign Minister Abdurahman Jama Barre left yesterday for Kuwait to attend the ICO foreign ministers meeting.

UGANDA

President Museveni Receives Sudanese Minister*JN272027 Khartoum SUNA in English 1721 GMT 27 Jan 87*

[Text] Kampala, Jan. 27 (SUNA) — Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni had conferred with the Sudanese delegation, currently visiting Uganda to take part in the celebration of Uganda's victory day which comes within the context of the first anniversary of Museveni's takeover of power.

Interior Minister Sayyid Ahmad al-Husayn, who is leading Sudan's delegation, has discussed with Museveni bilateral relations and means of boosting them.

Departs for Kuwait ICO Summit*EA271520 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 27 Jan 87*

[Text] President Museveni has left for Kuwait to attend the summit of the Islamic Organization Conference. While in Kuwait, the president is expected to meet other leaders and discuss with them matters of bilateral cooperation. The president is accompanied by the minister of planning and economic development, Professor Yoweri Kyesimira; the deputy minister of finance, Mr Kafumbe Mukasa; and the governor of the Bank of Uganda, Haji Sulayman Kiggundu.

Soviet Friendship Official Arrives on Visit*EA272213 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 27 Jan 87*

[Excerpts] The vice chairman of the Union of Soviet Societies of Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, Mr Eduard Sarkisov, has arrived in Uganda for a 3-day visit during which he will open and participate in the first national conference of the Uganda-Soviet Friendship and Cultural Society. It will open at the International Conference Center tomorrow. [passage omitted]

In a brief statement to the press, Mr Sarkisov congratulated Ugandans upon the successful celebration of the first year of peace. He was glad that the national conference of the Uganda-Soviet Friendship and Cultural Society has coincided with this important event. [passage omitted]

NRA Reportedly Kills Over 260 'Rebels' in Kilak*EA202026 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 20 Jan 87*

[Text] According to the Uganda Government newspaper, *New Vision*, there was heavy fighting between the NRA [National Resistance Army] and rebels at Kilak in Gulu District last week. In an editorial published today, the paper said the area is now back in the hands of NRA. It said the first attack took place last Wednesday morning. More than 180 rebels are expected to have been killed in the attack in which about 300 rebels took part. There were only 2 NRA dead and 11 casualties.

The second attack came at 4:30 PM the same day when a second group of rebels launched a surprise attack on the corner kilak [as heard]. The *New Vision* says definite figures in this attack are not available, but it is thought that around 80 rebels were killed with a loss of only one NRA soldier.

BURKINA FASO

Iranian Envoy Discusses Cooperation With Sankara

AB251005 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
2200 GMT 24 Jan 87

[Text] Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the CNR, president of Burkina Faso, received His Excellency Mohammad Kazem Khonsari, Iranian ambassador to Libya, late this afternoon. At the conclusion of the talks, His Excellency Khonsari made a statement to newsmen:

[Begin Khonsari recording in Persian fading into French translation] In the name of God, the merciful. I am very happy to be in Burkina Faso with the Burkinabe people, a revolutionary people, and I am here extending the greetings of the Iranian people to the Burkinabe people. I came here within the framework of the strengthening of bilateral cooperation and the development of relations between our two countries and two peoples. I also delivered a message from President Khamene'i to President Thomas Sankara. We discussed other issues such as the Islamic revolutionary struggle. [end recording]

Minister Ends Visit to Libya; Protocol Signed

AB231357 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
1300 GMT 23 Jan 87

[Text] Minister of Information Basil Guissou, who is currently visiting Tripoli, just ended his Libyan tour. During his trip, Comrade Basil Guissou delivered a message from Captain Thomas Sankara to the leader of the Libyan revolution, Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi.

A protocol agreement in the fields of culture and information was signed yesterday between Libya and Burkina Faso, initialed by Comrade Guissou and his Libyan counterpart.

GHANA

Accra Condemns Capitalism for Third World Woes

AB221656 Accra Domestic Service in English
1300 GMT 22 Jan 87

[Kofi Maara commentary]

[Text] Recent trips to certain selected African capitals by top-level officials of the advanced capitalist world seem to be part of a grand design in aid of the international capitalist system. The strategy of these ambassadors of the so-called free enterprise system includes an attempt to capture the minds of young intellectuals through highly suggestive lectures given by some visiting top scholars. Another tactic they seem to be using is the heaping of praise on certain African countries, especially those which have adopted a pro-Western stand in international politics. They continually harp on the alleged economic success of countries like Ivory Coast, Liberia, and Zaire. They point to examples of economic growth resulting from the implementation of IMF prescriptions.

The aim of this strategy is clear. It is designed to sell the idea that the pro-Western stand is best for all Africa. With the help of the control of the international media, advanced technology, and the use of highly developed strategies necessary for the survival of the so-called free enterprise system, the rape of the Third World has continued, resulting in the deep economic crisis it faces.

The problems of hunger and deprivation including the provision of shelter for the homeless facing many Third World countries have been created by imperialism. Contrary to what international bodies like the World Bank and its affiliates peddle to us, economic mismanagement, overstaffed parastatals, overvalued currencies, and corruption are not the causes of our economic problems but are rather manifestations of the unequal relationship imposed upon the developing world by capitalism. It is becoming increasingly clear to the peoples of the Third World that until the fundamental basis of our problems is tackled in a very revolutionary manner, the crisis will not disappear.

That fundamental basis of Third World problems is imperialism. Contrary to the views of certain bourgeois scholars, the phenomenon of imperialism is very real. It did not, as they seem to suggest, disappear with formal colonialism. Imperialism sums up the relationship which exists between the so-called Third World and the advanced capitalist nations, a relationship which has developed over 400 years. This relationship, as we know, is very exploitative.

The absurdity of the relationship can be seen in the fact that while we have to pay more for what we import, we receive far less for what we export. The cycle of debt this produces, including the role international lending agencies play, is well known. Therefore, we have to borrow on less favorable terms in order to maintain a reasonable level of essential imports. When we speak of imperialism, we are talking of a global system which has absorbed our economies and which is intolerant of revolutionary movements, usually referring to them as terrorists.

The fact of the matter is that the genuine revolutionary in Africa, Asia, and Latin America is one who desires to capture from foreign domination control of our economies and place them firmly in the hands of the producers of the wealth that flows from them. In order to avoid the disorder and utter helplessness situations of drought and other natural disasters have brought about, it is high time African countries in particular begin to channel resources more into food production and into their internal economies and less to the parasitic global system. In addition, South-South cooperation and regional integration must be stepped up. This is in order to achieve self-sustained growth and proper linkages between our various sectors and therefore bring about real growth matched by corresponding development.

It goes without saying that superficial solutions peddled by the World Bank and its agents must be viewed with suspicion and not taken at their face value.

IVORY COAST

Hungarian Deputy Foreign Minister Arrives 22 Jan
AB231530 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
 0745 GMT 23 Jan 87

[Text] The Hungarian deputy minister of foreign affairs in charge of cooperation arrived in Abidjan yesterday. Following a morning meeting with the minister of defense, Dr Nagy had an afternoon working session at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. During that meeting, Gervais Attoungbre, director of political affairs, reminded our guests of the principles of our foreign policy, which is based on dialogue and peace, and openness to the outside world without any exclusion. At the end of this working session, the Hungarian deputy minister of foreign affairs explained to the press the objective of his visit.

[Begin Nagy recording in Hungarian fading into French translation] I have come on a good-will mission to your country, the purpose of which is to obtain information on the situation prevailing in your country, and above all to contribute to better understanding and cooperation between our two countries. I have held useful talks with my colleague, the director of political affairs, and his aides. During these talks, he briefed me on the principles of Ivory Coast's foreign policy and aspirations. My country and government fully agree with these principles and aspirations. No problem affects our bilateral relations. We must therefore expand, develop, and deepen our relations and cooperation, which have just begun. Therefore, I believe we will have opportunities to initiate more frequent political contacts and to strengthen our economic cooperation on the basis of mutual benefit. [end recording]

SENEGAL

AFP: Students Renew Strike for Indefinite Period
AB232158 Paris AFP in French 1629 GMT 23 Jan 87

[Text] Dakar, 23 Jan (AFP) — The strike launched Thursday for 24 hours by students of the University of Dakar has been renewed for an indefinite period, and the action is spreading to high schools in the Senegalese capital, it was learned from reliable sources.

Demonstrating students clashed with security forces on the university campus Thursday, leaving several persons injured. In spite of persistent rumors that several students died, none of the demonstrators seems to be injured seriously, medical sources said Friday.

Students are notably protesting delays in the payment of scholarships, and the deterioration, according to them, of accommodations and dining conditions at the university. Student sources said Friday that a certain number of scholarships have begun to be paid.

The striking students are demanding, besides the full payment of scholarships, the departure of policemen from the campus, the resignation of the directors of the National University Catering and Welfare Service, and the repair of damages, according to them, caused by the policemen in one of the campus residence halls.

On Friday, security forces were maintaining their presence on campus and along the main road leading from the campus into town.

The dozens of doors removed forcibly and rooms ransacked show the violence of the clashes Thursday between policemen and demonstrators inside the campus residence hall where some 500 students are lodged, an AFP reporter noticed.

General assemblies of students of each department decided Friday morning to continue the strike for an indefinite period, while the boycott of classes was spreading to high schools.

SIERRA LEONE

AFP: Authorities Tell Students To End Strike
AB242200 Paris AFP in French 1509 GMT 24 Jan 87

[Text] Freetown, 24 Jan (AFP) — About 1,500 Sierra Leone University and high school students have been on strike for a week demanding an increase in their food allowance.

In a state radio message broadcast 24 January, the Freetown authorities formally notified the striking students to resume classes Monday, 26 January, or face dismissal, and warned the scholarship students that if they did not halt their strike by Monday their scholarships would be cancelled.

The university and high school students, who have been boycotting classes for a week now, are demanding that their food allowance be raised from 11 leones (40 leones equal \$1) to 21 leones.

Sahr Foyor, president of the students' union, told AFP that for the past week the students had been meeting with government and university authorities to reach an agreement, but the authorities merely asked for an 8-day respite.

Frontline Plans for RSA Sanctions Detailed

*MB270600 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2116 GMT
26 Jan 87*

[Text] Harare, Jan 26 SAPA — Frontline States are bracing themselves for a full-scale Berlin blockade style emergency to protect their economies against retaliation by Pretoria when comprehensive economic sanctions are imposed against South Africa, according to ZIANA, the semi-official news agency.

Details of the U.S. 700 million dollar (R1458 million) plan to stockpile and airlift emergency food supplies, build up transport corridors to divert trade traffic from South African ports, set up a frontline regional task force, support liberation movements and create a group of eminent persons to monitor the southern African crisis have been released to ZIANA.

The plan lays down urgent measures needed to meet shortages of essential goods in the Frontline States after sanctions against apartheid South Africa and its retaliations. Berlin-style airlifting might be needed because of transportation bottlenecks.

The plan of action for Africa Fund was adopted by last week's New Delhi summit of the seven heads of state or government of member countries of the action for resisting invasion, colonialism and apartheid fund committee of the Nonaligned Movement, which was launched here last year.

A U.S. 20 million (R41 million) reserve of 150,000 tons of grain would remove dependence on food imports from South Africa for at least one year. In 1984-85 Frontline States received 876,000 tons of grain through food aid programmes and imported 961,000 tons commercially, including 15 per cent from South Africa.

In 1984 Zimbabwe's total imports from South Africa were Zimdollars 231.8 million (R301 million). Emergency warehouses would have to be built to stockpile strategic reserves of grain and other essential goods at an estimated U.S. 75 million dollars (156 million). This would provide fifteen 10,000-ton silos spread over different Frontline States at a cost of U.S. five million (R10.4 million) each to store 150,000 tons of grain.

Priority was given to developing immediately a reliable and efficient transport system. At the moment most export and import traffic from Frontline States are routed through South African ports mainly because of sabotage of vital regional transport corridors by South African-backed armed bandits. "This dependence of the Frontline States on South Africa for access to the sea makes them dangerously vulnerable to retaliatory actions by the racist Pretoria regime."

Traffic handled through Beira and Maputo ports in Mozambique and Lobito in Angola has been drastically reduced because of attacks by MNR and UNITA rebels on railway lines and roads connecting the hinterland. The Tanzanian ports of Dar es Salaam and Tanga Mtwara and the connecting railroad networks are beset by infrastructural problems.

SADCC has identified an elaborate programme for rehabilitation of the transport corridors. "The overall financing gap is quite large, but there are some critical projects which need to be

undertaken most urgently in order to reduce the vulnerability of the Frontline States," says the report released after the meeting of a committee of leaders of seven Non-Aligned Movement countries - India, Peru, Argentina, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Congo and Yugoslavia.

The mini-summit was a follow up on the sanctions initiative adopted at the Nassau Commonwealth summit, which set up the Eminent Persons Group to negotiate for a peaceful settlement in South Africa, and the Non-Aligned Movement summit in Harare last year, which launched the Africa Fund.

Nineteen projects to improve regional transport networks and airports for immediate Africa Fund action total more than U.S. 450 million dollars (R937.5 million). It includes provision of silos, a cotton depot, cold storage facilities, a tobacco depot, a sugar and cereal terminal, freezer truck and freezer railcar.

SADCC has identified a number of railway, port and other projects costing a total of U.S. 186.6 million for rehabilitation of the Lobito corridor. Urgent repair and maintenance was also needed to rehabilitate the Benguela railway.

Nearly U.S. 100 million dollars (R208 million) will go toward supplying new locomotives, repowering 16 Chinese locomotives and supplying 821 wagons and materials to improve the capacity of the Tazara [Tanzania-Zambia Railway Authority] railway, which runs through Tanzania.

Emergency plans also include improvements in port facilities and roads facilities. "There is a heavy degree of dependence on South Africa in the field of external trade. The structure of trade is highly unbalanced in favour of imports from South Africa," says the Africa Fund report.

For the safe functioning of vital economic installations and networks, training is to be provided for security personnel to protect railways and other vital installations.

"If the Frontline States were to pool their resources and set up a regional protection force with the objective of guarding vital installations against sabotage by South African sponsored rebels, assistance would have to be extended to this force as well," says the report. Nonaligned Movement member states have been called on to help develop human skills in the Frontline States for the effective management of national economies.

A critical area of dependence relates to the large numbers of migrant workers from some Frontline States employed in South Africa. The South African Government has already been threatening these states with reductions or complete stoppages of migrant labour. "The capacity of the affected countries to satisfactorily absorb the returned labourers in gainful economic activities is rather limited," the report says. Mozambique has estimated an expenditure of U.S. 761 million dollars (R1585 million) over a period of three years for rehabilitation of 300,000 labourers into various sectors of the economy.

The meeting received a request from the African National Congress of South Africa for U.S. 29.6 million dollars (R61.6 million) a year to cover expenses on publicity, transport

equipment, legal aid, administrative expenses, organisational activities, air travel to Frontline States and other needs. The Pan-Africanist Congress put in an appeal for U.S. 10 million dollars (R20.8 million) a year for training, medical assistance, transport equipment and administrative expenses. SWAPO of Namibia asked for an emergency U.S. 2 million dollars (R4.1 million) for publicity, food, school uniforms, transport, fuel and other urgent needs.

ANGOLA

UNITA Warns Railway Attacks Will Continue

*MB250716 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1716 GMT
in English 0630 GMT 25 Jan 87*

[Text] The UNITA resistance movement says that unless the Angolan Government reaches a peace agreement with UNITA, there is no point in the British based LONRHO company trying to run the Benguela Railway. A UNITA spokesman was reacting in Lisbon to the news that LONRHO and the Angolan Government are holding talks on the possibility of LONRHO managing the railway line which runs from the Angolan coast to Zambia and Zaire.

UNITA attacks have kept the line closed since 1975, the year Angola became independent. The spokesman said the railway was a strategic target and even if LONRHO took charge, UNITA attacks would continue.

MOZAMBIQUE

MNR Details Capture of 3 Towns, Shelling of Tete

AU271747 Paris AFP in English 1744 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Text] Lisbon, Jan 27 (AFP) — The South African-backed Mozambique National Resistance (MNR) rebel movement said here Tuesday its forces had captured three towns in the course of a "major offensive" launched recently in northern Mozambique.

It named the towns as Mecanheles, Meluco and Magoe, in the provinces of Niassa, Cabo Delgado et Tete, respectively. The MNR also said they had shelled "military targets" in the city of Tete, the capital of the province of the same name.

The MNR communique said that during the operations the rebels had killed 214 Mozambican soldiers and their Zimbabwean and Tanzanian allies, wounded 91 others and captured 45 of the ruling Frelimo party militia.

The MNR also claimed that documents captured at Mecanheles proved that there 7,100 Ethiopian troops in Mozambique.

NAMIBIA

Two SWATF Members Die in Land Mine Blast

*MB231718 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1716 GMT
23 Jan 87*

[Text] Windhoek, Jan 23, SAPA — The SWA Territory Force announced in Windhoek today that two of its members stationed in northern SWA/Namibia, died in a landmine blast late yesterday afternoon.

They were Corporal Jose Carreira, 20, who leaves his mother, Mrs N. Carreira, of Windhoek; and Lance Corporal Nato Barnard, 20, who leaves his father, Mr N.W. Barnard of Otjiwarongo.

Both were members of One SWA Engineerr, but the SWATF gave no further details of the blast.

The latest fatalities of the SWA/Namibian security forces brought to 11 the number of its members who died in action to date this year.

SWATF Reports 72 SWAPO Members Killed in Clash

*MB271723 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1657 GMT
27 Jan 87*

[Text] Windhoek Jan 27 SAPA — South African-led security forces from SWA/Namibia have completed mopping-up operations following an armed clash with Angolan FAPLA Government forces and SWAPO insurgents at Mongua, about 75km inside Angola, on Sunday afternoon.

The SWA Territory Forces said in a statement in Windhoek today that the operations were completed late yesterday afternoon and the bodies of 11 more SWAPO insurgents had been found. A total of 72 SWAPO insurgents were killed in the action, which brought to 172 the number of known SWAPO fatalities in the first 25 days of this year, the statement said.

The SWATF statement did not specify the number of Angolan troops who had died but a source close to the military gave the figures as 48.

Three members of the SWATF died in the action, which brought to 14 the number of SWA/Namibian security forces members killed on active duty this year. The dead were Sgt J. Martin, 30, who leaves his wife at Ondangua; Cpl M. Alughodi, 27 who leaves his father Mr F. Alughodi of Onambango; and Rfn W. Shitogeni, 26, who leaves his wife at Ondangua.

The latest armed confrontation between the SWA/Namibian security forces and the Angolan Government army was the worst since May last year when more than 50 FAPLA soldiers were killed in a motorised pursuit by the security forces of SWAPO insurgents returning to bases in southern Angola. The SWA/Namibian security forces column drove into an ambush laid at the time by the Angolan soldiers and the SWAPO insurgents.

According to SWATF statistics, 645 SWAPO insurgents were killed last year compared to 599 in the previous year.

Outgoing SWATF Commander on Action Against SWAPO

MB231751 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1747 GMT 23 Jan 87

[Text] Windhoek, Jan 23, SAPA — A cessation of active support for SWAPO's armed wing by the MPLA Government of Angola would bring an early end to the SWA/Namibian bush war, the outgoing officer commanding the SWA Territory Force, Major-General Georg Meiring, said in Windhoek today.

"The simple solution is that no direct support be given to SWAPO and that it should not be allowed to operate against SWA from Angola," Gen Meiring said at a military parade to hand over the command of the SWATF to his successor, Major-General Willie Meyer.

Gen Meiring said that in the 20 years of the SWA/Namibian bush war, the security forces had shot and killed 10,260 enemy forces — mostly SWAPO insurgents — while 1,379 civilians had died, mostly through actions by SWAPO's military wing, the People's Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN).

In the same period, 605 members of the security forces had died in action.

The SWA/Namibian bush war began on August 26, 1986, when "the first and only" SWAPO armed base was wiped out at Ongulumbashe in the north of the territory.

Last year 645 insurgents were killed by the security forces, while 115 civilians died and the security forces suffered 32 losses, Gen Meiring said.

The number of insurgency incidents last year was 475 compared to 656 in 1985 but "the quality" of the incidents was considerably lower than in the previous year.

"It is my honest conviction that was it not for the active support of plan by a foreign country such as Angola and a hostile regime such as the MPLA Government, the terror war would have been long over."

Gen Meiring, who takes over northern Transvaal command of the SA Defence Force, said 70 per cent of all troops deployed in northern SWA/Namibia were members of the SWATF.

"If SWA were not confronted on its borders by a sophisticated hostile force comprising FAPLA (Angolan Government troops), Cubans and Russian soldiers equipped with advanced armaments, South Africa would have no need to deploy any of its troops here," he said.

SOUTH AFRICA

Defense Minister Says Emergency Ensures Security

MB241205 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0900 GMT 24 Jan 87

[Text] The minister of defense, General Magnus Malan, says it is premature to talk of lifting the state of emergency. Speaking at the presentation of colors to Randburg command, Malan said the state of emergency ensured a degree of security in which the restructuring of society could take place. He said South Africa's growth and development could only be ensured by determined action. In this way it will be possible to broaden democracy in a evolutionary way that will be of benefit to all.

Gen Malan said the ANC was committed to violence, and it would be inappropriate for the government to soften its approach to the organization. He said the government was in the process of introducing changes but will ensure that no population group dominated or suppressed others. Gen Malan added that there was no instant solution to the country's problems and that change could only take place in the spirit of accommodation and reconciliation. He said what had happened between the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, and the chairman of the Minister's Council in the House of Representatives, the Rev Allan Hendrickse, was an example of this approach.

Restrictions on Township Funerals Imposed

MB261038 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1032 GMT 26 Jan 87

[Text] Pretoria Jan 26 SAPA — Permanent restrictions were imposed on funerals for unrest victims in a further 23 Witwatersrand townships over the weekend.

The orders, gazetted in Pretoria under Emergency Regulation 7 (1), entail what have become known as the "standard" restrictions on funerals for unrest and "security action" victims.

The orders effectively extend permanent conditions imposed on funerals in Soweto, Diepkloof, Meadowlands and Dobsonville last Tuesday to a further 23 townships across the reef.

The conditions, amongst others, prohibit the holding of a funeral for an unrest victim:

- Without prior police approval;
- Where anyone but an ordained minister acts as a speaker;
- Where a PA [public address] system is used or where more than 200 people attend; and
- Where flags, banners or posters are displayed.

The orders are apparently intended to obviate the need for promulgating temporary restrictions in respect of specific funerals, as was previously done.

The additional townships are: Sebokeng, Evaton, Sharpeville, Bophelong, Boipatong, Mohlakeng, Bekkersdal, Kagiso, Munsiville, Wattville, Daveyton, Katlehong, Thokoza, Tembisa, Kwathema, Duduza, Balfour, Greylingstad, Botleng, Ratanda, Vosloorus, Tsakane and Alexandra.

Dr van der Merwe Re-Evaluating Press Restrictions
MB230808 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0753 GMT
 23 Jan 87

[Text] Pretoria Jan 23 SAPA — In view of speculation in the press regarding possible changes to the regulations prohibiting the promotion of unlawful organisations, the deputy minister of information, Dr C.J. van der Merwe, confirmed in a brief statement that, "the situation prohibiting the media from promoting unlawful organisations is being evaluated." He added: "No final decision in this regard has been taken." Dr van der Merwe said that as far as the relaxation of some other emergency regulations were concerned, comments in this regard were "at present pure speculation."

NRP Agrees Not To Oppose PFP in Election
MB261953 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1948 GMT
 26 Jan 87

[Text] Cape Town Jan 26 SAPA — The New Republic Party's federal executive tonight gave formal approval to an agreement with the Progressive Federal Party that the two parties not oppose each other in the coming general election. The NRP's Cape leader, Mr Pat Rogers, said the agreement was "on a clear basis of us retaining our separate identities."

Under the agreement the PFP would contest seats it already held, the NRP those that it already held, and the remaining seats would be divided between them, "depending on who has the best chance of winning."

Mr Rogers said the division of seats in the Cape would be finalised in the next few days, while the regional leadership of the parties in the Transvaal and Free State still had to decide how the division would work in those provinces.

The division of seats in Natal has already been agreed on.

The PFP will contest Pietermaritzburg North, Pietermaritzburg South, Greytown, Umhlanga, Durban North, Durban Central, Berea, Pinetown, Umhlatuzana, Umlazi and Port Natal. NRP candidates will stand in Umbilo, Mooi River, Durban Point, Amanzimtoti and South Coast.

It is still possible that the PFP could put up candidates in Umfolozi and Klip River but a final decision has not yet been taken.

HNP, CP Agree to Election Pact in East London
MB281144 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1000 GMT
 28 Jan 87

[Text] The HNP and the CP have made an election pact in East London. They will be supporting two independent right-wing candidates. Frans Kruger has more:

[Kruger] The local leadership of both the HNP and CP have indicated that they have agreed to support two right-wing independent candidates. The two are Basil Nieman, who founded and led a local right-wing group called the Independent White Association, and Nic Slabbert who also belonged to the group. The will stand in the two East London constituencies. Announcing his candidature yesterday, Mr Slabbert said, the two men will campaign on the same issues; right-wing unity, retention of the group areas act and beach apartheid, and more power for the security forces. The agreement has apparently been sanctioned by HNP leader Jaap Marais and the agreement of CP national leadership is still expected.

Transkei Police Arrest Several Alleged Guerrillas
MB231223 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1200 GMT
 23 Jan 87

[Text] Transkei police have arrested a number of alleged guerrillas in the Willowdale area. A government statement released to IRN [Independent Radio News] says the arrests were made and a number of documents seized after the police and defense force launched a hunt for a suspected guerrilla gang operating in the area. The operation began 2 days ago and a police officer was slightly injured in the action. The statement does not say how many people have been arrested. Yesterday it was reported that security police and defense force members were deployed in the Willowdale District after attackers hit Butterworth's security branch members.

ANC's Nzo Reveals Plan To Mobilize Whites
MB231027 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
 0600 GMT 23 Jan 87

[Text] The African National Congress of South Africa has said it will mobilize the white population in its final assault against the apartheid Pretoria regime. Secretary General Alfred Nzo said in Arusha, Tanzania, that the main task that faced the liberation movement this year was mounting an assault on the racist regime from all fronts. He was addressing the 47th ordinary session of the Organization of Africa Unity liberation committee on behalf of the region's liberation movement. Comrade Nzo said the ANC was going to consolidate the gains already made, strengthen the street and area committees, expand and stabilize the mass organizations, as well as reinforce the combat units.

Unrest Report Issued on 27 Jan Incidents

MB280929 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0926 GMT
28 Jan 87

[Text] Pretoria Jan 28 SAPA — The Bureau for Information situation report for the period 0001 to 2400 January 27:

Unknown radicals threw a hand grenade at a private home in Chesterville (Durban) late last night. No one was injured in the incident and only a window was broken and a hole blown into one of the walls. No arrests have thus far been made.

Other unrest-related incidents during the abovementioned period were reported from only three police districts and comprised stone throwing incidents and a petrol bomb attack. No injuries or arrests were reported and damage was minimal.

Press Comments on Current Problems, Issues

MB280719 [Editorial Report]

THE STAR on Vote Mobilization Against Government

"There are degrees of enthusiasm for the Progressive Federal Party's election strategy this year of mustering all available reform-minded people to promote an alternative government," says Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 27 January in a page 8 editorial. The paper notes the PFP federal executive's "recommendation to its Randburg division committee and Southern Transvaal regional executive that the party should stand back in favour of Nationalist rebel and sitting MP Mr Wynand Malan." "What the regional and constituency executives must ponder carefully in considering the federal executive's recommendation is whether it is better to strengthen the thrust of the alliance's strongest member, the PFP, or seek to broaden the scope of the alliance by deliberately sacrificing a likely seat to a fringe member of the alliance who may influence further defections from Nationalist ranks." However, "the most overriding need is to mobilise reformist votes as effectively as possible against the Government."

BUSINESS DAY on Interest in Socialism

A page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 27 January says: "Politics, perceived by the Nationalists as a question of race, is seen by black people in more conventional terms as concerning the division of the spoils. The result has been a soaring interest among black people in socialism and in mechanisms for the redistribution of wealth — an interest buttressed by an ideological campaign that seeks to equate apartheid with capitalism. And, indeed, the ideological argument against capitalism must triumph if no way can be found within the capitalist system to eliminate, or at least to ease, the more severe disparities of wealth. Sensing this, many people are now beginning to plead for social-democratic devices to lighten the burden of poverty on, especially, the black population." "We grow insecure as our failing economy falls further and further behind social needs. Such is the cost of government's economic mismanagement."

U.S. Unlikely To Impose More Sanctions

Simon Barber writes from Washington, on the same page, that despite ANC leader Oliver Tambo's and the UDF's call for more Western sanctions on South Africa, that "as far as America is concerned, both he and the UDF are going to be disappointed. Sanctions wise, the U.S. bolt has been shot. This should be apparent to any reader of the Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act (CAAA) passed last October over President Reagan's veto." Barber says that "no administration, whatever its partisan stripe, is going to risk driving away at least \$200m worth of business — the value of Department of Energy contracts to enrich SA-origin uranium last year — for the sake of maintaining a moralistic posture which provides not a single material benefit to the U.S. electorate or exchequer." "For most legislators, there were solid, protectionist, constituency reasons to ban SA textiles, steel, coal and agricultural products in the CAAA. Do Tambo and the UDF really think these people are so committed to the struggle that they will now actually punish their own voters to advance it?"

CAPE TIMES: PFP too Radical for Whites

Paul Malherbe writes on page 8 of Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 26 January that "with so many voters rejecting apartheid as a solution, only 18.6 percent say they will vote PFP. PFP spokesmen believe that the poor voter support is related to an image of ineffectiveness, that is perceived as too radical and that whites are scared of instantaneously giving votes to everybody." Malherbe suggests that "the first thing is to accept that the best hope for 1987 is to achieve a coalition government with moderate Nationalists and to gear its entire strategy towards that goal. It must also talk to extra-parliamentary groups and convince them that a white government willing to dismantle apartheid is far preferable to one that will not, and it must not delay stating its conditions for entering a coalition." "The average white voter would recognise the PFP's election platform as something far less scary than the threat of an instant one man, one vote over the whole country." "Continued lack of attention to white fears, an inadequate election target, an aversion to specifics and an inability to face the need for prompt and bold action will surely mean that a most unique opportunity will have been allowed to slip by."

SOWETAN: Black Groups Work Towards Peace

"Most people feel an extraordinary sense of relief that the main black political organisations are striving to bring about the much desired peace in black politics. Factional fights of an ideological nature were hampering and delaying the excellent work done by all these organisations," says Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 27 January in a page 6 editorial. "The Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), the UDF and AZAPO have held two meetings wherein they have tried to identify the cause of the grave political fights and reach some amicable working relationship." "We are sure most people will be watching this new development keenly and the rewards will swiftly be felt by the various organisations when they get more support from the population as a whole."

BEELD: Too Early To Lift Emergency

A page 8 editorial Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 27 January says: "Everyone who strives for peace in South Africa wants to see the end of the state of emergency. But those who believe that the country can be brought to its knees through

violence are eager to continue with terrorism and intimidation. Thanks to increased government measures these unrest instigators are no longer so active as is believed in other countries. Not only are they held in check, but at the moment it suits the ANC to pretend to be peace-loving, while its leader, Oliver Tambo, is about to have talks with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz." The paper warns that violence is still beneath the surface and for that reason it is too early to do away with the emergency measures.

DIE VADERLAND Criticizes NP Member Resignation

A page 10 editorial in Johannesburg *Die Vaderland* in Afrikaans on 27 January comments on Randburg MP Wynand Malan's resignation from the NP and the PFP decision not to appoint a candidate for that constituency "because the PFP is fairly happy with Malan's point of view." "This reflects on the PFP's political integrity that it is prepared to receive Malan before he has agreed to go along with it." "The PFP believes that the chances of keeping the NP away from this constituency by supporting Malan are greater." The paper points out that Malan has embarrassed his party by leaving at an inappropriate time "which arouses a strong suspicion of planned maliciousness."

ZAMBIA

Prime Minister To Take Over Finance Portfolio

MB281101 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 28 Jan 87

[Excerpts] The president, Comrade Kaunda, has announced changes and promotions in the party and the Armed Forces. Speaking at a press conference at Mulungushi Hall this morning, the president transferred some members of the Central Committee to other provinces, (?swapped some) ministers of state, and made a few changes at district governor level.

The president added responsibilities to the prime minister, Kebby Musokotwane, with the inclusion of the portfolio of finance. [passage omitted]

President Kaunda Departs for New Delhi Summit

MB230933 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 23 Jan 87

[Text] The president, Comrade Kaunda, has left Lusaka for New Delhi where a 2-day nonaligned Africa fund summit opens today. The president, who left last night, was seen off by the premier, Comrade Kebby Musokotwane, the secretary of state for defense and security, Comrade Alex Shapi, and other senior state officials. Foreign affairs minister, Luke Mwanashiku, and commerce and industry minister, Jameson Kalaluka, are already in the Indian capital as an advance [word indistinct]. The mini summit, being opened by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, is being attended by India, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Congo, Nigeria, Algeria, Yugoslavia, Peru, and Argentina. The idea of the fund was mooted at the last summit of the Nonaligned Movement which was held in Harare, Zimbabwe, last year.

Radio Truth Reports 'Serious Friction' in Army

MB270958 (Clandestine) Radio Truth in English
to Zimbabwe 0430 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Text] A little more information has come to light on the serious friction and rivalry in the top structure of the Zambian National Defense Force. As we reported, the former army commander, General Tembo, has been relieved of his post and has been replaced by some previously unknown senior officer. In part, this adds fuel to President Kaunda's ever-present fear of a military coup, but there were other sharp differences between Tembo and the minister of defense, General Masheke, that brought the issue to a head.

There was an argument over the proposed deployment of Zambian troops in Mozambique and in addition, a violent disagreement over some appointments and promotions that Tembo had recommended. He had proposed to bringing back 13 Zambian defense attaches from overseas stations and to give them senior and powerful command posts in the Army. The Defense Council rejected his recommendations, alleging that they would lower the morale among officers in the force and leave Tembo open to charges of nepotism. Gen Masheke conveyed the council's opinion in writing to Kaunda, which was considered to be a severe reprimand for Tembo.

The letter also accused Tembo of having a negative reaction to southern Africa's regional which did not befit his standing as Army commander. Gen Tembo has also fallen foul of the powerful United National Independence Party secretary general, Grey Zulu, who at one time had been a close associate in subversive planning. Zulu accused the general of corrupt practices by taking bribes from an Indian factory owner for his contracts with the Zambian Army.

With all this conniving and scheming going on, it is small wonder that KK [Kenneth Kaunda] is more concerned with preserving his domestic throne than with plots against Malawi or active sanctions measures against South Africa.

ZIMBABWE

ZANU (PF), ANC Hold Talks on Cooperation

MB231627 Johannesburg CITY PRESS in English
25 Jan 87 p 2

[Text] Political and operational chiefs of the African National Congress have held two days of talks with leaders of Zimbabwe's ruling ZANU (PF) party.

The talks centred on the struggle against apartheid in South Africa and the crisis in the region.

Observers see the talks as evidence of a changed relationship between the two organisations.

Their past relationship has been bedevilled by the ANC's almost complete support for Joshua Nkomo's ZAPU party during the liberation struggle in Zimbabwe.

Indications now are that the ANC and ZANU (PF) have put the past behind them.

At various times, ANC president Oliver Tambo and Prime Minister Robert Mugabe led their respective delegations in the talks which took place on Monday and Tuesday last week.

Tambo and Mugabe have long been friends but it has taken their two organisations longer to reach this point.

The Zimbabwean side consisted of members of the ZANU (PF) politburo and central committee.

Sources on both sides have declined to disclose the exact content of the talks.

"We exchanged experiences in our respective struggles," one source, who had attended the talks, said.